



# QCWA Journal

Quarter Century Wireless Association - Founded in 1947

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*Our newly elected officers and directors!*

Quarter Century Wireless Association  
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We accept orders charged to credit cards.



# QCWA Journal

www.qcwa.org ■ WINTER 2006 ■ Volume 55, Number 4

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SSB - Sunday at 2000Z on 14347  
CW - Wednesdays at  
2000E on 7035

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## REPORTS

<b>President's Message</b> - John Johnston, W3BE	3
<b>General Manager's Report</b> - Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD	5
<b>Chapter Reports</b>	16
<b>New Members</b>	38

## FEATURES

<b>QCWA Scholarship Winners</b>	6
<b>Memorial Scholarship Fund</b>	11
<b>Chapter 91: Jamestown Celebration</b>	24
<b>Amateur Radio Stamps</b> - Robert Cashdollar, NR8U	42
<b>The Time Capsule</b> - Gerd Schrick, WB8IFM	44
<b>Random Recollections</b> - George Hart, W1NJM	46
<b>The Calgary Convention</b> - Ken Oelke, VE6AFO	48
<b>GEEKS</b> - Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF	49

## COLUMNS

<b>Q&amp;A The Rules Say...</b> - John Johnston, W3BE	12
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## DEPARTMENTS

<b>Classified Ads</b>	52
<b>Silent Keys</b>	54
<b>Chapters On The Air</b>	55

**This month's cover:** Our newly elected officers and directors: **Front row (L-R):** Walt Supina, N3WS, Secretary; Blanche Randles, W4GXZ, Director; Frank Harris, WA4PAM, Treasurer; John B. Johnston, W3BE, President; Len Nathanson, W8RC, Vice President; Tony Hirsch, W8RSH, Director. **Second row (L-R):** Carolyn Harrison, WB0OUM, Director; Ed Yoder, W3YMB, Director; Val Erwin, W5PUT, Director; Leroy Baldwin, W0OFY, Director; Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, Director. Not pictured (excused), William Pasternak, WA6ITF.

**DISCLAIMER:** Opinions expressed by the authors of articles contributed to the Journal do not represent the official position of the Officers or Directors of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.



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## **Past Presidents**

**John DiBlasi, W2FX (SK)**

1947 - 1964

**Earl R. Thomas, W2MM (SK)**

1965 - 1968

**Clarence Seid, W2KW (SK)**

1969 - 1971

**Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK)**

1972 - 1973

**Frank A. Gunther, W2ALS (SK)**

1974 - 1977

**Harry S. Gartsman, W6ATC**

1978 - 1981

**Stuart Meyer, W2GHK (SK)**

1982 - 1985

**Leland Smith, W5KL (SK)**

1986 - 1989

**Harry Dannals, W2HD**

1989 - 1994

**Lew McCoy, W1ICP (SK)**

1994 - 1996

**John Kelleher, W4ZC (SK)**

1996 - 1998

**Gary R. Harrison, K0BC**

1998 - 2002

**Croft Taylor, VE3CT**

2002 - 2004

## **Executive Secretary/ General Manager**

**Ralph Barber, W2ZM (SK)**

1955 - 1964

**Gus Gironda, W2JE (SK)**

1965 - 1973

**Ethel Smith, K4LMB (SK)**

1974 - 1976

**Ted Heithecker, W5EJ (SK)**

1976 - 1991

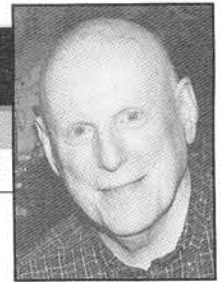
**Jim Walsh, W7LVN (SK)**

1991 - 2003

### ***The QCWA Journal***

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## Chapter Plans For The New Year!

**G**reetings QCWA Members! Now is the time to make your Chapter plans for the New Year 2006. Your Chapter will enjoy better programs when you have such a plan around which you can obtain interesting speakers and arrange for field trips. Take photographs of each event and send in the best two, along with 500 or so words of text, for your Chapter Reports in our QCWA JOURNAL. They go to our GM Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD. qcwagm@rcn.com

Your first gathering will probably be your official Annual Meeting. Strike out February 9, 10, and 11 for the fabulous Orlando HamCation. Also strikeout May 18, 19 and 20 for the great Dayton Hamvention. We want to greet all of you there at our QCWA booth.

Add to your schedule the flying of our banner at your local hamfests. Many hamfest sponsors will provide a table gratis for a QCWA Chapter. This makes a fine gathering point for our members and prospective members. It is our best opportunity to explain to our amateur service community just what our Association is all about. You can invite those first licensed anytime before 1983 to become a part of it. Explain to them that our QCWA is a celebration by their fellow hams who understand their valuable contribution to our fabulous hobby. QCWA is a lot of fun and we do good work. Let them know that they will become friends with interesting hams who understand and appreciate what amateur radio has accomplished.

Be sure to inform our Webmaster of your meeting schedule and locations. The listing of our Chapters' events is invaluable while planning a trip. It makes it possible to work into your itinerary a visit to as many of our Chapters as possible. Visiting with friends and making new ones can be the highlight of your next journey.

### SECTION 97.1 ALL STARS FOR 2006

It is also time to call for your Chapter's nominations for our QCWA Section 97.1 Presidential Honors Awards for 2006. Five of these awards will be selected by April 1, 2006, and will be announced in our summer 2006 QCWA JOURNAL. For your nominee to be considered, please submit, before March 15, 2007, your nomination to Director Harrison, WBOUOM, POB 467, Bolivar, MO 65613. Carolyn is the Chairman of our Chapter Relations Standing Committee that is administering this program.

On January 31, 1951, our Federal Communications Commission placed into our operating rules a statement of the type of amateur radio service it expects us to provide in return for being allowed to make use of some highly valuable radio spectrum. This statement of basis and purpose did not come from any international body. It applies only to the places where the FCC regulates the amateur service. The statement survives

today in Section 97.1 of our rules. It is important that we pause annually to reflect upon just whom it is among our fellow members that we admire as our role models in helping to fulfill each of these five principles during the previous year. They are our Section 97.1 All-Stars. We are indebted to them for what they are doing and for reminding us of our wonderful privileges in making use of an increasingly valuable public resource.

**Chapters:** Here is the call for your nominations. Include with the name and call sign of your nominee, the specific award for which you are making your nomination and a statement of



Members of our York County Chapter #165



Chip Morgan, N3IW, President of our York County Chapter #165 made a visit to our QCWA Booth at the Frederick, MD, Hamfest.

(continued on next page)

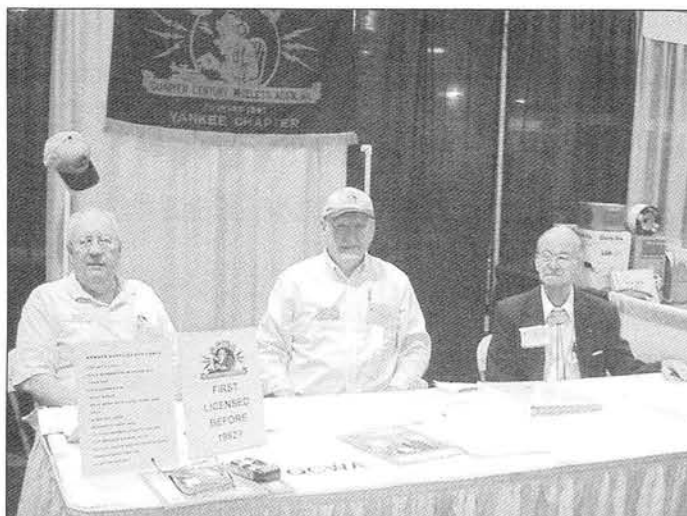
## The Quarter Century Wireless Association

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc. was founded December 5, 1947, as a noncommercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment and advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare.

QCWA is an incorporated association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of New York, and is a tax exempt 501(C)3 organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Its affairs are governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every two years by the general membership.

In order to qualify for membership in QCWA one must have demonstrable proof of having been first licensed as an Amateur Radio operator at least 25 years prior to application for membership and must be currently licensed. Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be addressed to the business office at P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247 U.S.A. Telephone: 508-405-1930 FAX: 508-405-1965



(l to r) GM Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD, W3BE and Director Harold Chase flying our QCWA Banner at Boxborough.

your reasons for making your nomination. There are five Presidential Honor Award to be presented. They are:

1. Section 97.1(a) For service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
2. Section 97.1(b) For continuing and extending the amateur operator's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
3. Section 97.1 (c) For advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the radio arts.
4. Section 97.1(d) For expanding the existing reservoir within our amateur service of trained operators, technicians and electronic experts.
5. Section 97.1(e) For continuing and extending the amateur operator's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

Here's your opportunity to recognize a deserving QCWA member in your Chapter for helping make amateur radio the greatest hobby in the World. It is our way of thanking them for helping prove that it is truly in the public interest to allow persons interested in radio technology solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest to make use of highly valuable electromagnetic spectrum for carrying out self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations.

### RECENT VISITS

Recent visits with our Chapters include York County (PA) Chapter #165 picnic; Colonial Chapter #166 (Parkesburg, PA) picnic. Also, our QCWA banner was flying proudly at the Frederick (MD) Hamfest Howard County Hamfest (MD), the ARRL Maryland State Convention, the ARRL New England Division Boxborough Convention, the FAR Hamfest (Gaithersburg, MD) and the Tidewater Hamfest (Virginia Beach, VA).

Here's to another great QCWA year!  
**DE W3BE**



# GENERAL MANAGER'S Report

Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD



WINTER 2006

**CONVENTION 2006:** By all reports, the Wild Rose Chapter in Calgary did an outstanding job on their Convention. Congratulations to Ken Oelke and his fine Committee for a superb job in planning and executing the convention activities. Unfortunately, Jan developed a severe leg infection that kept us from attending. We missed all the friends that we met at past Conventions and we look forward to seeing all of you at the Denver Convention in 2007.

**CHAPTER REPORTS:** Trying to provide a Journal for our members that is diverse, interesting, and informative, is a balancing act that, at times, requires some rules to allow a fair and balanced publication. In that regard, all future Chapter reports will need to follow these limits set by the Publications Standing Committee: 500 words and two photos maximum. When taking photos, group together those receiving awards rather than individual photos. Those can always be posted on a chapter web-page. When a chapter report is submitted, please include the chapter number in the title and with any photos submitted. Preferred formats for reports are: Word (.doc), rtf or plain text. We cannot accept files from Microsoft Works. Typed files are accepted, but not preferred, and will be scanned to convert them to a digital format. Photos should be at the maximum of your digital camera in jpg format. Prints from film cameras are acceptable and will be scanned for publication. Separate e-mails for text and photos is acceptable, in that some Internet providers may not allow large files, but please include the chapter number on all submissions.

**ACTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** QCWA's Bylaws specify the rules and regulations used to govern the organization on a variety of issues. One of these is the establishment of the dues paid by our membership. These funds are used to conduct the business side of QCWA's activities. At the Board Meeting in Calgary, the Board, which has authority to set dues, voted to increase our member dues. The main reasons behind this were the many cost increases that have occurred over the years. The last dues increase was April 1, 1996 with increases of \$5 for one and two years and \$20 for three years. Dues increases are not a popular item any organization wants to address. But continued increases in our cost of doing business have caused QCWA to use funds from one of our investment accounts, a condition that cannot continue. In considering the increase, the Board also evaluated possible savings as well as non-dues sources for revenue. The Finance Subcommittee is evaluating these options. The action by the Board in Calgary did not address the total dues structure but only the US Domestic dues. Changes for Canadian and International dues have been proposed. A listing of all proposed dues can be found on page 56. As of the publishing date for this Journal, the Board of Directors has not given final approval for these changes. Refer to the QCWA web page for possible updates.

**YEARS END:** It is hard to believe that Jan and I are completing our third year in the Headquarters Office. It has been an interesting experience, one that has expanded our horizons with visits to conventions, chapter meetings and the interaction with so many members via phone, Internet, e-mail and in person. For all this, it has been our pleasure. With Dayton 2007 not that many months away, we look forward to greeting many of you at our booth.

## **QSO Party Dates for 2007**

Spring Party: 3/31 - 4/1/2007

Fall Party: 9/15 - 9/16/2007

Log sheets available from Headquarters or the QCWA Web page

We wish all of you a happy Holiday season and the best for the coming year.

**73, Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD**

*General Manager*

# ***The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc.***

## **QCWA Scholarship Winners**

### **QCWA Named Scholarships - \$1500.00 each**

#### **Ralph Hasslinger (W2CVF) Charter Member Scholarship**

*Stephen Sciarini, KC8IDJ — Dover, OH*

#### **Donald & Phyllis Doughty Family Scholarship**

*Justin T. Kates, KB3JUV — Lewes, DE*

#### **Leland Smith, Sr. (W5KL) Memorial Scholarship**

*Rebecca Rich, KB0VVT — Raytown, MO*

### **QCWA Named Memorial Scholarships - \$1000.00 each**

#### **Jacobson-Kelleher Memorial Scholarship**

*Jonathan Troup, K0DE — Berthoud, CO*

#### **Leo Meyerson (W0GFQ) Family Living Scholarship**

*Francis T. Gradijan, KD5HTB, Carrollton, TX*

### **QCWA Memorial Scholarships - \$1000.00 each**

*Krista D. Birmingham, KB2MER — Ridgewood, NJ*

*Steven R. Chimel, KA3SRC — Clarks Summit, PA*

*Peter R. Gawtry, KC0CLY — St. Paul, MN*

*Nathaniel Heatwole, WZ3AR — Damascus, MD*

*Michael A. Kreuter, AA3SQ — State College, PA*

*Kerry K. Manderbach, KC0VNH — St. Louis, MO*

*Reid S. Morine, W4RSM — Wilmington, NC*

*Johanna Preston, W5JLP — Austin, TX*

*Stephanie Schaefer, KC2NSA — Binghamton, NY*

*Stephen T. Simpson, KC8IOY — Ocala, FL*

*Johnathon VanKooten, KC0SLB — Harvey, IA*

*Kriston Wilson, KC0INX — Bloomfield, CO*

## **QCWA Congratulates Our Scholarship Winners for 2006!**





**Stephen Sciarini, KC8IDJ - Dover, OH**

Stephen will be starting his junior year at the University of Akron where he is majoring in Electrical Engineering. He holds an Extra Class license, is an active Volunteer Examiner, a student member of IEEE, and a member of the ARRL. As a member of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club, he actively participates in Field Day and especially enjoys fox hunts. Additionally, he worked during the summer for the United States Department of Agriculture to design and build a soil moisture controller.



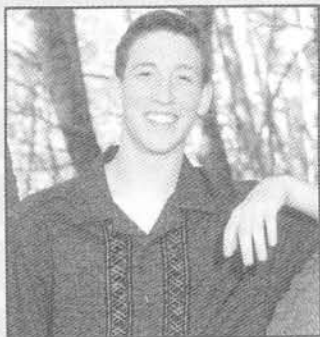
**Justin T. Kates, KB3JUV - Lewes, DE**

I got my first taste of Amateur Radio during my freshman year of high school. When I entered electronics class for the first time, I had the opportunity to listen while Amateur Radio operators in Texas searched for wreckage and bodies from the Space Shuttle Columbia explosion. From that moment, I knew I wanted to be a ham. It was going to take a lot of hard work, but I was determined to earn my license. After receiving my technician's license, I continued to study. Within five months I earned my Extra Class license.

I became the President of the high school's Amateur Radio Club and planned their first annual Field Day and Hamfest events. Both events were very successful. I am a member of the Sussex Amateur Radio Association, Nanticoke Amateur Radio Club, and the Lewes Amateur Radio Society. Within a year I was elected Vice President of the SARA and NARC clubs.

At seventeen, I became an auxiliary member of Delaware Army MARS and participated in Grecian Firebolt and numerous community events providing emergency communications. Now that I'm eighteen, I have full member status in Army MARS. I was named Training Officer for DE Army MARS and recently named the ARES Section Emergency Coordinator for the state of Delaware.

This summer, I was employed full time by the Delaware Emergency Management Agency as Communication Corps Coordinator. In the fall, I will continue to work at DEMA part time while I attend the University of Delaware as an Electrical Engineering Major. Although obtaining an Electrical Engineering degree will be very demanding, I hope to become active with the university's amateur radio club during my free time.



**Jonathan Troup, K0DE - Berthoud, CO**

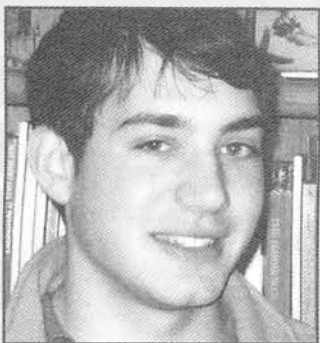
Jonathan is a 19-year old Amateur Extra currently attending Colorado State University as a sophomore Mathematics and Computer Science Major. He heard about amateur radio through his family and shortly after receiving his novice license, discovered an amateur radio-club for kids called BARC Jr. This organization helped him earn his extra class license within the same year, at 12 years old. Jonathan now elmers kids at BARC Jr. during the summer. He greatly enjoys ham radio contests and Morse code.

For an application, contact:

**Scholarship Committee Foundation  
For Amateur Radio (FAR)**  
PO Box 831  
Riverdale, MD 20738  
USA

For Further information, contact:

**Leland Smith, Jr. W4YE**  
**QCWA Scholarship Chairman**  
170 Stoneybrook Rd.  
Wirtz, VA 24184  
USA



**Francis T. Gradijan, KD5HTB - Carrollton, TX**

Francis Gradijan is a Junior Political Science and International Studies double major at the University of Scranton in Scranton, Pennsylvania. While maintaining a 3.94 GPA, he has involved himself as the Opinions Section Editor of the school newspaper- in charge of a staff of eight; served as the Vice President of a campus political club; worked as a campus tour guide; served as a campus radio-station disc jockey; and was the President and founder of The International Politics Club- a Model-UN organization with over twenty members. Last Summer he served an internship with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers' Compensation after being awarded the James A. Finnegan Fellowship for an outstanding essay on Presidential Primary Reform. Francis is currently active on six meters and is pursuing authorization to operate amateur radio while studying abroad this fall semester at the University of International Business & Economics in Beijing China



**Krista Birmingham, KB2MER - Ridgewood, NJ**

Krista Birmingham is a Music Education and Voice Performance major at Montclair State University. She is also a member of Reverberation, a Pennsylvania based Professional Handbell Choir. Krista has many interests in communication, whether it be through music performance or amateur radio. Krista holds a General class license and has been licensed since she was 8 years old. She is a member of ARRL, YLRL, ECDXA, 10-10 International (#58191), and the 10-70 Repeater Assn. Krista is part of an "All Ham" family consisting of her Father, Silent Key Andy, WB2RQX; sister Holly, KB2ZMM; Uncle, Dale, KF8FM; and Mother, Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF, Vice President of the 10-70 Repeater Assoc. and ARRL Hudson Division Vice Director. Krista is very thankful to be receiving the QCWA Scholarship.



**Steven R. Chimel, KA3SRC - Clarks Summit, PA**

I am at Pennsylvania State University in their honors program. My major is Information Technology with a concentration in network security. At present I have completed an unpaid internship for an international company and was offered a position in their IT department. In addition, I have a small DJ business, sets up and maintains the equipment for a professional band and installs network systems in the area. With my busy school schedule and work load I have not had as much time for ham radio as I would enjoy, but this year my goal is to get into satellite communications and obtain my general license. Then as the bands improve I will be able to enjoy the equipment my father, WA3LWR, and mother, KD3GG, have collected over the years and try more digital technologies such as SSTV, PSK and meteor.



**Peter R. Gawtry, KC0CLY - St. Paul, MN**

Peter R. Gawtry is an Eagle Scout and graduate of Minnehaha Academy in Minneapolis, Minnesota. While in high school he participated with the following: theatre technology crew, Science Olympiad team, math team, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, orchestra, concert band, jazz ensemble, pep band and Friends of the Library. He has also been an active member of the St. Paul Radio Club (KOAGF) since getting his license at age 9. He has been a SPRC board member for the past year. Peter plans on attending Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota in the fall, and majoring in Computer Science.





**Michael Kreuter, AA3VS - State College, PA**

Michael Kreuter, AA3VS, has been a Ham for six years. He got his Tech Plus license when he was 12, and the next year he upgraded to the General Class License. The next year was when the FCC redesigned the license structure, and so he upgraded directly to the Extra class license. Both his parents are also Extra class licensed Hams and were licensed under the old system. Michael graduated from State College Area High School and is now attending Penn State University where he is currently enrolled in the College of Engineering and plans to major in Computer Science.



**Kerry K. Manderbach, KCOVNH - St. Louis, MO**

I was interested in Ham Radio since I was a young teenager, but there were no Hams in my area to guide me in getting my license. I was able to listen over the years on shortwave radio to hams all over the world, which was always enjoyable. I grew up and supported my family over the years, until an illness made it difficult to work. I got a chance to go back to school and am beginning my junior year at the University Of Missouri at St. Louis. As an adult student, learning isn't as easy as it once was, and my illness also makes it difficult at times, but I have managed to make the Dean's List. This has inspired me to try and do all the things that I once wanted to accomplish, including becoming a Radio Amateur. I earned my Technician Class License last November, and have passed my Element 3 exam recently. Now I'm having fun learning Morse code and hoping to soon upgrade to General. I hope to get a degree in Communications/Media Studies and am Vice-President of the National Broadcasting Society on my campus, as well as helping Marcel, N9NJY, and Dr. Granger, KBOPCZ, in setting up the new campus radio station, 101.9 FM. I hope to be employed in the Communications industry some day. I enjoy being a Ham, and am looking forward to the responsibilities and privileges that come with it. I am a member of the St. Louis & Suburban Radio Club and a SkyWarn Spotter (#161) in my area.



**Reid S. Morine, W4RSM - Wilmington, NC**

I'm a freshman at UNCW (University of North Carolina at Wilmington) in its Pre-engineering program. After my sophomore year I'll transfer to NC State. I'm leaning towards Mechanical Engineering. As you can see in my picture, I'm also an Eagle Scout. In high school I played varsity soccer but now I'm playing at the recreational/coed level. I earned my Technician license when I was 12 at a summer camp along with my younger brother Grant, W4GHM. My dad, Bill N2COP, encouraged us to become hams. When I first got my license, I used my HT for about two years to talk to my brother and some other friends on a Friday night youth net. Also, I really liked autopatch before I got a cell phone. Today, I don't get on the air much but I check into the local ARES net once in a while because our area gets hit by hurricanes a lot and I want to keep my skills up.



**Stephanie Schaefer, KC2NSA - Binghamton, NY**

Stephanie's father, W3SW, and brother, KB2ZWZ, inspired her to take the Technician License test. She will be attending Marywood University studying Elementary Education with a concentration in Music. Stephanie has received the Girl Scout Gold Award and is a Lifetime Girl Scout. She has played percussion in various ensembles and as a volunteer she is involved in numerous community and church activities. Her QCWA sponsor was Bill Thompson, W2MTA, #18792.



**Stephen Simpson, KC8IOY - Ocala, FL**

Stephen Simpson, KC8IOY, is a 17-year-old student who has completed the courses required for the Associate of Science in Computer Engineering Technology and the Associate of Science in Computer Information Technology at Central Florida Community College as part of his home-schooling program. He will be studying for a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering at the University of Florida. Stephen was first licensed as a Technician when he was 8 years old. Stephen serves as Webmaster for the Friendship Amateur Radio Club, of which he is a member, and serves as Webmaster for the Ocala Chapter 62 QCWA.



**Johanna Preston, W5JLP - Austin, TX**

After showing interest in Morse Code, Johanna Preston became a Novice at age 11, operating CW and collecting QSL cards. In time, she upgraded to Extra Class (age 20) and became a W5YI volunteer examiner. As an undergraduate student at The University of Texas at Austin, she majored in chemical engineering and Plan II, a liberal arts program. The UT Amateur Radio Club (N5XU) introduced her to contesting, and she later served as President of that organization in 2001-2002. Since then, she has made an EME contact from F6KSX, earned a Master's degree in organic chemistry at the University of Versailles, and participated in the French ham radio club F6KRK. She recently started medical school in San Antonio, TX.



**Kristin Wilson, KCOINX - Bloomfield, CO**

Kristin Wilson, KCOINX, is an 18-year-old Amateur General currently attending the University of Northern Colorado as a freshman Elementary Education Major with an emphasis in math and a minor in music. She has been around ham radio for many years because of the history of amateur radio that runs in her family. She first participated in Field Day 2000, when she was 12, with a group of kids called the Boulder Amateur Radio Club Jr.'s (BARC Jr) and loved it. She studied for and received her technician license shortly after. She has loved contesting ever since then, and participates in Field Day and the November SSB Sweepstakes every year. She has also participated in five 14er events and she has spoken at the Dayton Hamvention and Hamco Colorado. Kristin upgraded to her general class license in 2002, and is still working on upgrading to her extra. Kristin also enjoys participating in many other activities including band, competitive diving and many church activities.



**Nathaniel Heatwole, WZ3AR - Damascus, MD**

Like many hams, I started out in CB radio. From there I branched out into SWL where I often monitored the ham bands. I was so intrigued by the quality of operating and the capability of communication that the ham bands offered that I decided to get a license of my own. The weekend before the 1998 ARRL Sweepstakes SSB contest, Bill, N3RR, invited my father and me to tour his elaborate contesting station in Rockville, MD. I was so impressed by his station and stories of contesting that I decided to dabble in the contest that coming weekend. During the contest I was bitten by a nasty critter known as the contest bug and I went on to participate in several other contests.

Several months later I met Dave, K3LP. Dave and Bill are both members of the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC). Dave invited me to help him operate the CQ WPX SSB contest at his QTH. The contest sparked my interest further and soon joined PVRC. That summer I did my first full-time contesting effort as a single operator, home station in Field Day 1999.

My current ham interests are primarily contesting and DXing. While my school commitments limit my operating time during the school year, I do regularly participate in Field Day and the IARU and IOTA contests and other part-time efforts throughout the year. I have earned DXCC, 5BWAS, IOTA, Millennium DXCC, 5BWAC, WPX honor role, and USA-CA. I have also operated four times as WZ3AR/4 from Chincoteague Island, VA. Currently, I am enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA

**Rebecca Rich, KB0VVT- Raytown, MO**

I am presently eighteen years old and I am a freshman attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Both of my parents are amateur radio operators. I became interested in amateur radio while watching my mother study for her amateur radio license. I earned my Technician Class license when I was seven years old. Soon after this accomplishment, I would pass all written and code exam requirements, including the 20 word per minute code exam, to earn the Extra Class license when I was just eight years old.

I have earned many amateur radio awards over the years including DXCC, WAS, and 5-Band WAS. In 2005, I was awarded the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award for my dedication to the amateur radio service, along with my academic excellence, emphasis on community service activities and my continued effort to introduce others to the amateur radio service. Later in 2005, with a little help from fellow student Joe Watts, KC0UNB, I became the all-time record holder for CW Sweepstakes operating in the School Club Category. Early in 2006, I traveled to Curacao and was a part of the world champion PJ2T team operating during the ARRL DX Phone contest.

What I love the most about amateur radio in the past decade are the November Sweepstakes contests, operating CW during Field Days, and promoting the amateur radio service to others. In January 2003, I operated CW for several hours during Kid's Day in the radio room aboard the USS Missouri. The excitement of amateur radio has helped to shape me into the person that I am today. I would like to think that amateur radio was a factor in my being accepted to MIT. With over 10,800 QRZ lookups, I can only hope that my life story has somehow touched the lives of others both young, and the young at heart, encouraging them to join the amateur radio service.

I would like to thank all the sponsors of Leland Smith, Sr. Memorial Scholarship. Leland Smith, Sr., W5KL, was a great man who served his country and the amateur radio service. Like Mr. Smith, I was born in Missouri and I love CW as my favorite mode of operation. It is an honor to be the recipient of the Leland Smith, Sr. Memorial Scholarship. I also would like to thank Mr. Bob Roske, N0UF, for endorsing my scholarship application while I was volunteering at the ARRL Youth Activities Booth during the 2006 Dayton Hamvention.

**Memorial Scholarship  
Fund**



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RALPH HASSLINGER	W4AMJ
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CHAPTER 196	W3JI
CHAPTER 45	ROSE JECK
CHAPTER 45	KATHLEEN TAYLOR
CHAPTER 45	HERMAN KRAMER
CHAPTER 79	K0AOE
CHAPTER 51	W5EKE



# The Rules Say... Q&A

John B. Johnston, W3BE, 17701 Bowie Mill Road, Derwood, MD 20855-1608

## Will it Be You?

**Q. What would you think about sending to the FCC recordings of BPL interference to our stations to prove how disruptive it is?**

**A.** It might be effective, but no guarantees from here. Your question, however, raises the frightful thought that the BPL advocates could turn the tables on us. They could send in recordings of some of our intercommunications that are so frivolous as to make a persuasive argument that our amateur service does not warrant protection from anything.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Make a New Years Resolution that it will not be your station's transmissions that loses our battle against BPL interference.

**Q. Is the reasoning behind the choice of the 2-meter RACES frequencies (144.50-145.71 and 146-148 MHz) in Part 97 because those frequencies cover the areas generally used for FM and repeaters, excluding/protecting weak signal frequencies at the bottom of the band and the satellite sub-band from 145.8-146 MHz?**

**A.** No. The timing simply doesn't fit. Our RACES (radio amateur civil emergency service) rules, moreover, are based on other considerations with which our regulators had to cope long before repeaters and satellites came along.

On January 17, 1951, an FCC public notice announced which segments of our allocated amateur service frequency bands would continue to be available for us to provide civil defense communications after suspension of normal amateur service activity. The notice disclosed that these frequency segments were selected for retention based upon factors such as the frequency requirements of other radio services in time of war or national emergency.

On December 19, 1952, the FCC released its proposals for a new RACES service, the licensing and operation of which were to be based upon organized networks under the direction of community or area civil defense authorities. Sub-bands for this new service were designated within our 160, 80, 75, 10, 6, 2 and 1.25 meter bands. The final rules were released on June 30, 1952. Section 97.3(a)(37) defines it as a radio service using amateur stations for civil defense communications during periods of

local, regional or national civil emergencies.

Evidently, there was in existence an overall frequency allocation plan to be implemented in the event of an emergency that necessitates the invoking of the President's War Emergency Powers under the provisions of Section 706 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 606.

**Q. In the 1980's, the RACES assignments on two meters did not allow any repeater with a normal 600 kHz split. The RACES assignments were probably unchanged from the ones found in a 1961 handbook: 145.17-145.71 MHz and 146.79-147.33 MHz. In the late 1980's RACES assignments were changed to include all of the two meter repeater sub-bands. I do not believe the changes were a coincidence. (Comment?)**

**A.** Thanks for pointing this out. Obviously, the allocations were revised somewhere along the line to accommodate revisions in the overall frequency allocation plan to be implemented in the event of an emergency that necessitates the invoking of the President's War Emergency Powers under the provisions of Section 706 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 606. The current notation in the e-CFR Code of Federal Regulations, [54 FR 25857, June 20, 1989, as amended at 65 FR 6550, Feb. 10, 2000], doesn't help pin this down.

### OFF TO THE RACES

Over the years, the responsibility for administering the RACES - in case normal amateur service activity is again suspended - has shifted from the Department of Defense to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, now a component of the Department of Homeland Security. The rules for RACES have also evolved and now reside in Section 97.407. The frequency bands allocated to RACES, nevertheless, are remarkably similar to those announced over 55 years ago.

Fast forward to March 31, 2004. In the Notice of Proposed Rule and Order in WT Docket No. 04-140, at paragraphs 89 and 90, the FCC notes that procedures for the use and coordination of the radio spectrum during wartime and other national emergencies are specified in



Parts 201 and 214 of its Rules. These procedures specify that, during certain periods of wartime emergency, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) will serve as the central authority over our Nation's telecommunications facilities, systems and services, and will authorize, modify or revoke the continuance of all frequency authorizations issued by the FCC. Additionally, these procedures authorize the Director, OSTP, to issue policy guidance, rules, regulations, procedures, and directives to assure effective frequency usage during wartime emergency conditions.

The Notice goes on to note that Section 97.407(b) of our rules authorize RACES stations and amateur stations participating in RACES to transmit on certain specified frequency segments during periods of wartime emergency. This section does not indicate, however, that such authorization is subject to other rules that are in place for the use and coordination of the radio spectrum during such emergencies.

The Notice requested comments on its belief that specifying frequency segments on which RACES and amateur stations participating in RACES may transmit under our Part 97 is unnecessary in light of the rules in Parts 201 and 214. In this regard, it states that the Director, OSTP, has the authority to specify which, if any, frequency segments upon which RACES stations and other amateur stations may transmit.

The Notice proposes to amend Section 97.407(b) to delete the frequency bands and segments specified therein and to clarify that, during certain emergencies, the frequency segments available to RACES stations and amateur stations would be authorized pursuant to Part 214.

Rewind to December 1952: The original emergency frequency reallocation plan that included RACES most likely also took into consideration certain valuable lessons learned during World War II – the first of which is that there should be at hand a realistic plan to implement rapidly. Apparently, that was not the way it was on December 8, 1941, when FCC Order 87 directed amateur operators to immediately suspend all amateur operation in the continental U.S. its territories and possessions. Under that Order, amateur station transmissions were prohibited during the next 44 months.

It wasn't until six months after hostilities began that the FCC released rules for a new temporary Wartime Emergency Radio Service (WERS) using certain VHF and UHF amateur service frequency bands above 112 MHz. Developed at the request of the Office of Civilian Defense, it provided for "competent" persons, after very tight security screening, to become operators in the WERS. Amateur operators were seen as one – but not the only – source of candidates. It must have been quite a spell, moreover, before VHF – let alone UHF – equipment became widely available. Such was then at the very cutting edge of radio technology. Reliance must have been on home-brewing with parts on hand.

On August 21, 1945, the hostilities having concluded, FCC Order 127 authorized the first amateur service opera-

tion in almost four years: Hams could share the 112-115.5 MHz band with the WERS. It also announced the cancellation of the WERS as of November 15, 1945.

The opening of parts of our 10-meter band – also on November 15, 1945, as the result of FCC Order 130 – was greeted with great enthusiasm by hams and hams-to-be looking eagerly toward the post-War era. At long last, they could use technology developed during the War and the operating skills they had acquired in the military. For the next decade, highly affordable War surplus electronic components and devices became available: transmitters, receivers, dynamotors, rotators, etc. All was just peachy-keen, until broadcast television took hold of our Nation's attention and our amateur service community had to learn to cope with TVI.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

This is a great time to confirm that you are still qualified for your license grant. Our VECs' Question Pools stand as our amateur service community's statement as to what one needs to know today in order to operate an amateur station properly. Go to one of the sites offering sample examinations and pass a practice test currently required for your class of license.

Pledge to do something for amateur radio. Volunteer your time and services to demonstrate amateur radio at a public gathering. Be an Elmer. Teach a license preparation course. Write an article for one of our publications. Serve as a volunteer examiner. Accept an administrative post in your local radio club. Those hams who do these and other activities make our amateur radio service work.

Update your station copy of our rules. Go to the FCC web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/>. Along the left side of the welcome page, click on [Rules and Regulations](#). Then click on [FCC Rules: CFR Title 47](#). Scroll down to and click on [97 Amateur radio service](#). On the notice warning that you are leaving the FCC web site, click on the address for our Government Printing Office. You are there. Better yet, use your favorite engine to search for "GPO e-CRF." Then click on "Title 47," then click on "Part 97." Bookmark for quick access.

**W3BE-O-GRAM: A copy of RILEY'S LIST would also make an excellent addition to your station:**

Always operate your station as if you are demonstrating the best of amateur radio so that your listeners will be impressed with our service.

Use good judgment: Just because you have a right to do something does not mean that it is right for you to do it in every circumstance.

### DO:

- *Understand that every right carries responsibilities.*
- *Comprehend that you don't "own" or have preference to use any frequency.*
- *Give a little ground even where you are in the right.*
- *Respect our band plans so that every mode has a chance.*
- *Cut our nets and contesters a break.*
- *Keep personal conflicts off the air.*

- Remember that the best reaction to deliberate interference often is no reaction whatsoever.
- Keep in mind that you can save yourself trouble or embarrassment by saying nothing.

### DON'T:

- Transmit a wideband signal on a busy band.
- Operate such that hams hearing you will be sorry they ever got into amateur radio in the first place.
- Disgrace amateur radio just to save face.
- Act like an idiot just because you were stepped on.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Another useful addition to your station would be the "Prohibited small transmissions test."

Section 97.113, says, in effect, that no station licensee should cause or allow the station to be used for any communications unless "No" can be answered truthfully and completely to each and every one of the following questions:

1. Is this communication specifically prohibited in Part 97 of the FCC rules?
2. Is this communication for hire?
3. Is this communication for direct material compensation?
4. Is this communication for indirect material compensation?
5. Is this communication for paid material compensation?
6. Is this communication for promised material compensation?
7. Does the station licensee have a pecuniary interest in this communication?
8. Does the control operator have a pecuniary interest in this communication?
9. Is this communication on behalf of the station licensee's employer?
10. Is this communication on behalf of the control operator's employer?

11. Can this communication be reasonably furnished alternatively through another radio service?

### APPRECIATION

Our TRS Superham-of-the-Month is our Director Carolyn Harrison, WB0OUM, new Chair of our Chapter Relations Standing Committee. Thank you, Carolyn, for all of the fine work that you have done for amateur radio. You are one of those fascinating people who make this wonderful hobby happen.



*Our TRS Superham-of-the-Month is our Director Carolyn Harrison, WB0OUM*

Send your questions by e-mail to [john@johnston.net](mailto:john@johnston.net).

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## QCWA STANDING COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

### COMMITTEE

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ADMINISTRATION:	Ken Oelke, VE6AF0
CHAPTER RELATIONS:	Carolyn Harrison, WB0OUM
EXTERNAL RELATIONS:	Val Erwin, W5PUT
FINANCIAL:	Tony Hirsch, W8RSH
PUBLICATIONS:	Leroy Baldwin, W0OFY

Addresses for Chairpersons can be found at the listing for QCWA Officers and Directors. A complete listing of all committee members is available at the QCWA website, [www.qcwa.org](http://www.qcwa.org).



# PRESIDENTIAL AWARD PRESENTED



Al LaPeter, W2AS, presents the Presidential Award to Roberta and Mort Cohen, WA2ARS, for their outstanding effort in flying the QCWA banner at the 2005 Orlando Hamfest.

## Give QCWA GOLF SHIRTS for the holidays!

A Golf Shirt (light gray) with a handsome reproduction of our classic Logo in Yellow and Black. This is a prominent way to identify yourself as a QCWA member at meetings, hamfests and conventions, or great for wearing at your local radio club.

The shirt has an embroidered QCWA logo and pocket on the left side. Your name and call can be added to the right side. The shirt fabric is 50/50 cotton/polyester blend and is made by Jerzee. The price includes prepaid delivery to your door.

### SIZE CONVERSIONS:

34 - 36 = Small  
38 - 40 = Medium  
42 - 44 = Large  
46 - 48 = XL  
50 - 52 = XXL  
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### PRICES:

Small, Medium, Large, Xtra Large	\$28.00
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XXXX Large (special order)	\$34.00
Name and call, per shirt	\$6.00

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Golf Shirt Size (Please circle proper size)

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Number of Shirts \_\_\_\_\_

To include your name and Call.....\$6.00  
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Home Page: www.qcwa.org



# CHAPTER REPORTS

Chapter Reports are a very important part of the Journal. We would like to see regular reports from all Chapters. If your Chapter is not represented on these pages, please ask your Secretary to file a special report for the Journal. Please send the reports to Chuck Walbridge, General Manager, to arrive **NO LATER** than the following dates: January 1 for Spring, April 1 for Summer, July 1 for Fall and October 1 for Winter.

**ATTENTION! QCWA Chapter Report Guidelines:** All future Chapter reports will need to follow these limits set by the Publications Standing Committee: 500 words and two photos maximum. When taking photos, group together those receiving awards rather than individual photos. Those can always be posted on a chapter webpage. When a chapter report is submitted, please include the chapter number in the title and with any photos submitted. Preferred formats for reports are: Word (.doc), rtf or plain text. **Please see additional information in this issues GM Report.**

## Chapter 1, Cleveland (OH)

Our October meeting featured Chapter One's annual awards presentation, honoring those who have advanced the cause of QCWA, the Chapter, Amateur Radio and the community.

George Keltner, K8SGM, was named Ham of the Year; Craig Kollai, N8ZT, received the Chapter President's Award; Devere "Dee" Logan, W1HEO, was given the Paul Cornell, W8EFW, Memorial Award; and the QCWA Chapter's Meritorious Award went to Alphonse "Al" Lada, WA8OZC.

A special alternate net control award was presented to Bob Robertson, KC8UIQ. Veterans' hospital station volunteers honors included John Bryson, KB8ZXW, and Harry Winfield, K8LXH. A special contribution award went to Mary Ingraham, XYL of Chapter President Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP.

QCWA service awards were presented to Richard Ingraham, WA8TPP, (50 years); Charles Jackson, W8QXF, (50); David Stahley, K8AUH, (50); Howard Reichle, W8GVE, (55); Marvin Goldfarb, W8YEO, (60); Jack Goldfarb, W8WGO, (65); John Misic, W8VRJ, (65); Clyde Rothstein, W8QHM, (70); George Cox, W8PJN, (70); and Onerio Sabetto, W8PIU, (70).

Cleveland Chapter One welcomes its newest member, David Parris, AB8SB.

The Chapter was represented at the Cleveland Hamfest September 24 with a booth, adjacent to the Ham Radio Promotion Project, co-sponsored by the Chapter. The promotional project video "Amateur Radio: Wireless Window to the World" was shown. Copies of the DVD are now available for a \$20 contribution to the project.

**Devere "Dee" Logan, W1HEO**

## Chapter 2, Chicago Area (IL)

Annual Brunch Meeting Minutes

Sunday, July 16, 2006

President Jim Quinn, K9JQ, opened the meeting at noon at Pappadeux Restaurant in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Those in attendance were:

K9JQ	Jim and Mary Lou Quinn
W9MOL	Lee and Phyllis Knirko
	Corinne Sher
	Marilyn Foster
WB9DJD	Paul Bovaconti and Julie Johnson
W9LOB	Al and Lillian Mazure
KA9OBZ	Gary Schneier
K0EWU	Jack Iverson
WA9FTS	Mike Brost and Carol Sparagio
W9GLW	Clint Bowman
	Jean Cone and Richard Gieras

Jim Quinn welcomed the members and their guests.

The Restaurant served a fantastic array of Brunch items, including juices, salads, waffles, pancakes, meat and potato dishes, fruits, desserts, etc. All agreed that the



President Jim Quinn, K9JQ; Marilyn Foster; Lee Knirko, W9MOL



selections were unsurpassed.

After the meal, entertainment was provided by Songster Marilyn Foster who began with a solo. Lee then passed out "Marilyn's Song Books" containing lyrics to the 17 songs on the program. Before leading the singing of "MY Melody of Love", Marilyn rehearsed the audience in the pronouncing the three lines in Polish. The audience participated in the songs enthusiastically and an enjoyable time was had by all. The meeting closed at 2 PM.

**Lee Knirko, W9MOL, Acting Secretary**

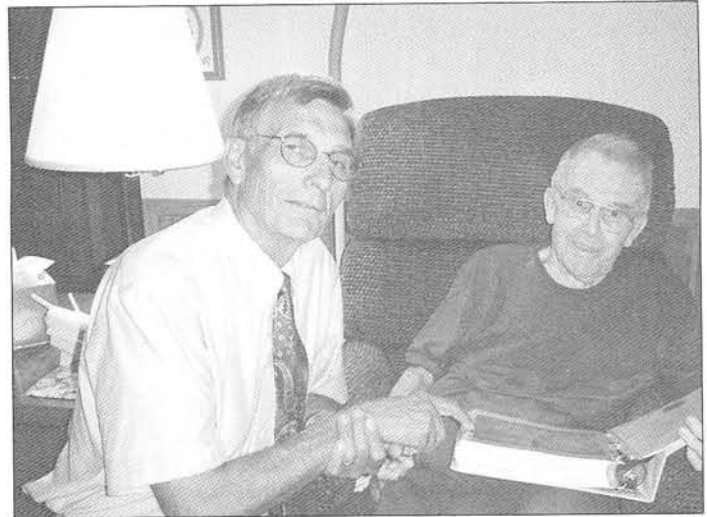
## **Chapter 10, Michigan (MI)**

As 2006 draws to a close, the members of Chapter 10 wish to extend Season's Greetings to all of the QCWA membership, and hope that you have a happy and prosperous New Year in 2007.

It is with deepest regret that we must report the following "Silent Keys" from our Chapter: Ronald G. Eichhorn-WA8MYT, from Madison Heights, MI; Clifford Graff-W8QM, from Saginaw, MI; and Theodore Kangas-W8HV, from Ishpeming, MI. A donation is being made to the QCWA Memorial Scholarship Fund, in their memory. We extend our sincere sympathies to their respective families and we will always remember their many contributions to the QCWA and amateur radio.

We would like to welcome the following new members to our Chapter: Duane Vasold, K8CCE, Freeland, MI; William Hund, WB8DRM, Manistee, MI; Robert Cook, N8IZF, Petoskey, MI; Richard Buckstiegel, WD8JVQ, Petoskey, MI; Thomas Behler, KB8TYJ, Big Rapids, MI; Kenneth Baker, W8NEV, Leroy, MI; David Wilcox, K8WPE, Traverse City, MI; Thomas Hansen, N8DGD, Grand Rapids, MI; David Hayes, VE3JX, Sault Saint Marie, Ontario, Canada; Louis Vescio, W8LPV, Saginaw, MI; Charles Robertson, K8BLL, Stevensville, MI; and Linda Sadler, WB8ZNQ, Chase, MI. Thanks to all of our members for doing an outstanding job of recruiting new members in 2006.

Our annual Summer picnic was held on August 16th, with 45 members and guests in attendance. After a great BBQ meal donated and prepared by Doug Almquist, WB8VOF and his XYL Maryanne, KC8WKN, Steve Sadler, WB8ZNR, and his XYL Linda, WB8ZNQ, we were treated to a wonderful presentation on the history of telegraphy, presented by Karl Roersma, W8KGR. One of the highlights of his presentation was the participation of two members, who were asked to operate a large wooden replica of a J-38 straight key, using their left foot. Karl's presentation was very informative and fun and he brought several dozen of his choice antique cw keys for all to view. At the conclusion of his presentation, Karl was pre-



**Pete Hansen, W8TWA (L) shows Chapter 10 History Books to Don "Van" VanSickle, K8GOU.**

sented with an honorary membership into the "Green Visor Society", by Mark Derby- K8MHZ, and his daughter Nichole, KOLEY. Presentations were also made by Walt Maxwell, W2DU, and Alex, "Polly", Polityka, W8FLA.

The following QCWA service awards were presented to Ken Baker, W8NEV, and Duane Vasold, K8CCE. Both of these members received the QCWA 50th Anniversary of Licensing Award and the QCWA 50 Years of Continuous Licensing Award. Congratulations to Duane and Ken for your accomplishments.

Chapter 10 has changed the frequency of their cw net to 3.702 MHz, which is held on Saturday evening at 8:00 PM, EDT, with Mike Hall, WB8ICN, as the net control station. We invite all QCWA members to join us on

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**Duane Vasold, K8CCE (L) receives his 50 years of Licensing and 50 years of Continuous Licensing Awards from Chapter 10 President, Doug Almquist, WB8VOF.**



**Ken Baker, W8NEV (L) receives his 50 years of Licensing and 50 years of Continuous Licensing Awards from Chapter 10 President, Doug Almquist, WB8VOF.**

our cw net for lots of good fellowship and fun.

We would like to extend out thanks to Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD, General Manager, and his XYL, Jan, for their outstanding service to all of our Chapter needs throughout this past year. Thanks Chuck and Jan for a job well done!

Additional pictures and news of our Chapter activities may be found on the Chapter 10 webpage located on the QCWA national website at: [www.qcwa.org](http://www.qcwa.org), click on "site index", then click on "Chapter 010". We appreciate the use of this webpage, provided to all QCWA Chapters, at no charge, and encourage all Chapters to make use of this great "perk", to post information about your Chapter activities, member accomplishments and awards, pictures, etc. Contact Bob Roske, NOUF, for details about your webpage.

We would like to encourage all members of QCWA to

become active in recruiting new members. This fine Organization will only be as strong and effective as we, the members, wish to make it. Please help do your part by promoting QCWA to others, encourage them to join you on your Chapter nets and in Chapter activities, tell them what QCWA means to you and encourage them to join. Nobody else will do the recruiting for us. It is our responsibility and we should be proud to become active in the recruiting process. Promote the accomplishments of your members by giving them recognition in your Chapter news article in the Journal. If you do not have a Journal article each quarter, discuss it with your membership and submit an article on a regular basis. If you need assistance with establishing an article for the Journal, please contact the General Manager, Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD. He will be happy to assist you with the details.

Any amateurs from Michigan or surrounding states wishing to join QCWA and/or Chapter 10, may do so by contacting our Secretary, Jim Bishop, W8JFB, at [w8jfb@arrl.net](mailto:w8jfb@arrl.net), or call at (906) 643-7103, for details and assistance.

**James F. Bishop, W8JFB, Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Chapter 12, Andy Clark, Miami (FL)**

The most recent Chapter 12 meeting was held on July 15, 2006. We had 18 members and guests present. Chapter 12 meets monthly 12 noon at Steak and Ale Miami, FL the third Saturday of each month. Officers for this year are Harry Pilafian, W4SQG, President; Vice-President, Joe Poerschke, WB4HIS; Art Rauch, W4VZ, Secretary; Marion Rauch, WB4RFB, Treasurer. Audrey Pilafian, KB4ZQU, suggested the Chapter obtain films promoting Amateur Radio from ARRL and donate to the schools' audio-visual center to be available to the schools in the county. If you are in Miami, feel free to join us at our meetings. Visitors are always welcome.

**Art Rauch, W4VZ, Secretary**

## **Chapter 20, Baltimore (MD)**

Our Monday luncheons at Cactus Willies in Glen Burnie Maryland have been well-attended, averaging 10 to 15 attendees.

New members in Chapter 20: Stanley Taylor, W3ZNK; Russ Slye, N3GT; Jim Jerman, W3SCD, and Bob Gardenghi, K3FQP.

Our end of Summer picnic on September 18th, was attended by 19 members, friends and XYL's. Ken McKee, W3RFQ, was our auctioneer for our auction in which members brought items to be auctioned off for the benefit





**L to R :** Ed Briggs, KB3IKD (friend of Chapter and picnic Chef); Ken McKee, W3RFQ (auctioneer); Bruce Carpenter, W3YVV (Treasurer); John Johnston, W3BE (President); Les Jamison, WR3X (Secretary/VP); and Joe Schwartz, K3JIS (Friend of chapter and Sunshine Committee).

of the Chapter. This was something new and went very well.

The Chapter door prize was won by our Treasurer, Bruce, W3YVV.

We invite those eligible to join QCWA to attend our Monday luncheons and join in the fun and fellowship. The first Monday of each month is "bring the XLY" day, and it is always well-attended.

**Les Jamison, WR3X, Secretary/Vice President**

## **Chapter 21, Canton (OH)**

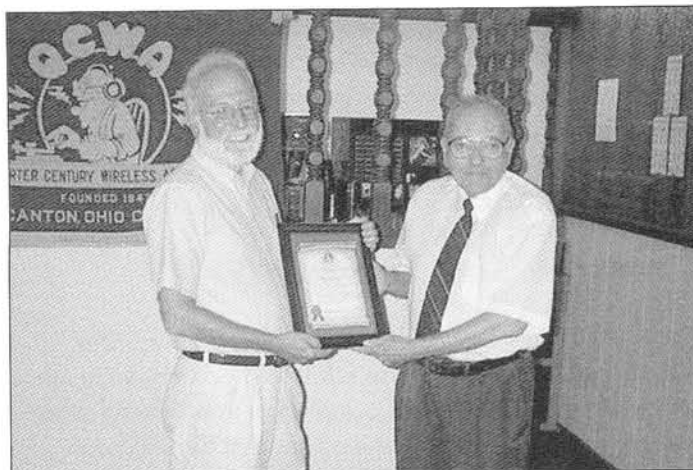
The regular quarterly meeting of QCWA, Chapter 21, Canton, Ohio, was held on August 19, 2006, following dinner at the Chicken Manor, North Canton, OH. President Kay McCune, W8LNK, presided for a business meeting. There were 24 members and guests present.

A new member, Bud Russell, W8GBH, and his wife, Joan, of Bridgeport, Ohio, were introduced.

Denny Moriarty, K8AGB, called attention to a brochure regarding the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, WV, and to a Telegrapher's Reunion that was held recently in Dearborn, MI.

President McCune presented the Meritorious Award Certificate to Melvin C. Vye, W8MV, in grateful appreciation for untiring and devoted efforts and services to the Chapter. He has been Vice President, President, and Director. He has presented programs about his trips, cellular telephones, invited a foreign student to speak, and hosted parties at his home. For DXpeditions, Mel has traveled to China, Nepal, S. E. Asia, St. Pierre and Miquelon, France, Monaco, Midway Island, Corsica, Bermuda, Mauritius Island, Reunion Island, Turks and Caicos, Channel Islands, and Peter One Island.

Nelson Caley, W8EAR, introduced Ray and Ila Troyer



**Melvin C. Vye, W8MV (L), was presented the 2006 Chapter 21 Meritorious Award for service and DXpeditions (See text) by President Kay McCune, W8LNK (R).**

for the program. Ray described his life since he left the Amish when he was age 14. He has been associated with the Amish ever since. He believes that the Amish people are changing in their lives and beliefs.

Prizes were awarded.

**David Glass, W8UKQ, Secretary**

## **Chapter 28, Central New York (NY)**

The Central New York Chapter has continued to grow during the past year, thanks to a well-supported membership drive at eight of the region's hamfests. President Frank Roney, K02Q, thanks all those who worked in support of the year's activities. We currently stand at some forty-seven Chapter members. At our last meeting, we offered a moment of silence in honor of Vince Homer, W3HGS, who joined the Silent Keys in August.



**Front row: W2IFB, AB2HT. Second row: K2ABX, K2TAE, W2MTA, K02Q, and WA2PHM.**

The Chapter held its annual picnic at the Newfield home of W2IFB in August, with fifteen attending. Joe and Linda provided a spectacular setting with a great veranda that afforded a very sociable cover from the dicey weather.

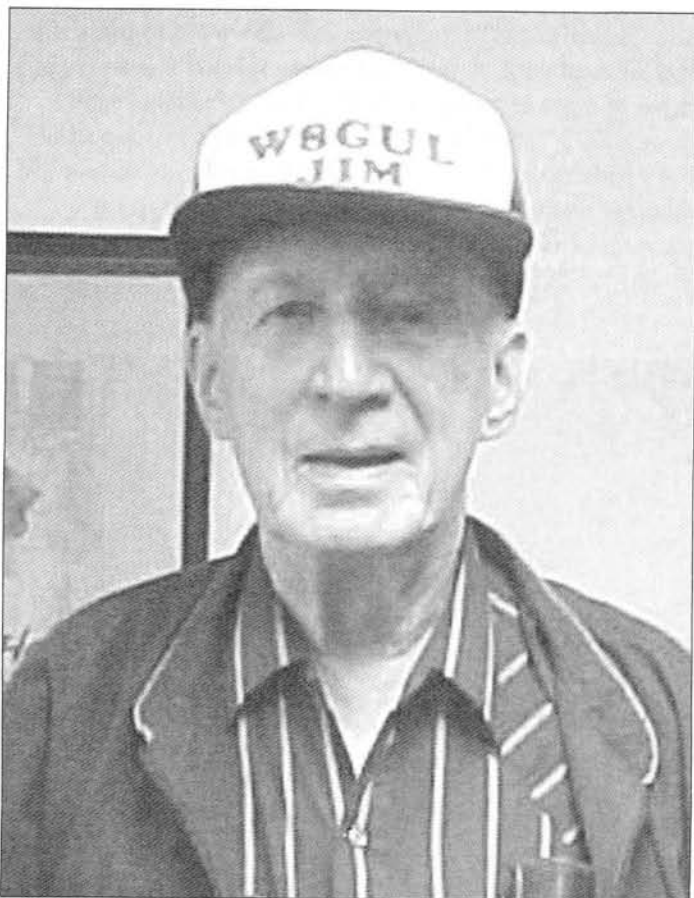
**Bill Thompson, W2MTA, Secretary**

## **Chapter 30, West Virginia (WV)**

Snow should be flying by the time you read this. Our meeting at Jackson's Mill last fall was a good one though lightly attended. There was competition from several other meetings scheduled at the same time. I'm sorry to have missed seeing everyone but promise to make it to Jackson's Mill next summer.

One of our Chapter members from Ohio received a special award and recognition. Connie Hamilton, N8IO, received the 2006 Allen Severson Memorial Award for her dedicated work in representing the ARRL in Southeast Ohio, service to the Ohio SSB Net and her service as Assistant SM for Ohio. Congratulations Connie!

Meet one of our Chapter members, Jim McEwuen, W8GUL. As a teenager, Jim tuned his Radiola III high in the broadcast band where he found some local hams that



*Chapters 30's very own Jim McEwuen, W8GUL*

were rag chewing on 160 meters. He bravely knocked on a stranger's door where he met one of these fellows, Fes, W8PZT (SK). Fes would become Jim's Elmer, introducing him to ham radio and starting to teach Jim the code. But WWII put an end to these activities. Fes went off to work in a defense plant and Jim went into the Army for three years.

Finally, in 1951, Jim got his General license. In 1963 Jim joined Navy MARS and for the next 43 years, served in many leadership roles including Training Officer, Emergency Communications Officer, State Director and District Emergency Communications Officer. Jim also became a civilian employee of the Navy Department where he worked for 20 years before retiring. In 1981 the Monongalia Wireless Association named Jim, Amateur of the year. In 1989, he was chosen West Virginia Amateur of the Year. After 55 years, Jim is still active in Navy Mars and ARES.

On the international level, Jim works with Partners of the Americas, a private international organization, in an effort to build good will and cooperation between states in North and South America. West Virginia is a partner with the state of Espirito Santo, Brazil. Jim works on projects with personnel of West Virginia University and a fellow ham Pat, PP1BG, in Brazil with whom he keeps a regular schedule. Congratulations to you, Jim, for an outstanding amateur career.

Don't forget our Chapter will be having a Spring Gathering soon. I'll get an announcement for the time and place in a later newsletter. Best wishes for the New Year. Let's hope we see an improvement in propagation during 2007 as we start a new solar sunspot cycle.

**Dave Mays, W8UI Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Chapter 38, San Antonio (TX)**

At our July 22 meeting, member Steve Cerwin, WA5FRF, provided a very interesting description of just about every kind of antenna in existence, including many not ordinarily found in Amateur Radio use, such as horn, slot and many others. His presentation was very much appreciated by the 20 members present. Also at the meeting, Gus N. Gikas, W5HRF, and his XYL Leola, were presented a farewell gift of a dozen "Yellow Roses of Texas". Gus and his spouse are moving to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to be near their family. We will surely miss them. Gus has been a member of Chapter 38 for over 24 years and served in Chapter offices as well as being active in other ham clubs in San Antonio since the 1940s. (see photo page 21)

**"Bill" Minton, AA5HI, President**





*Leola and Gus Gikas, W5HRF, with their dozen Yellow Roses of Texas farewell gift (Chapter 38).*

## **Chapter 41, Dallas (TX)**

The Chapter is saddened to announce the death of long-time active member Jack McElwain, W5SVZ, who died this past August 8 at age 79. Jack was a mechanical engineer by profession and a consummate DXer by avocation having in excess of 335 countries confirmed. He is fondly remembered as a friend of all whom he joyfully met with a great enduring smile and will be sorely missed.

Chapter members endured yet another scorching Texas Summer and are finally enjoying more humane temperatures as the year winds down from Fall to Winter. While many remained in place wearing Chapter-provided



*Members of Chapter 41's elite Alpine Ski Division (ASD) are shown at a recent planning session evaluating various Colorado ski locations. Shown left to right are: Bob Olney, N5NT; John King, K5CDV; Bob Jones, W5SYU; Mont O'Leary, K0YCN; Wayne Wyatt, N5BV; Barney Moffatt, W5CJZ; and Bill Thoman, W5JBD. Said O'Leary, "We're always looking for new Triple Black Diamond runs."*

OSHA-approved asbestos suits, others fled to cooler latitudes in the States or abroad. At the time of this writing, northernmost Chapter member Jack Kennedy, W5DJ, reports that early snows are commencing in the mountains in the vicinity of his Colorado QTH. And thoughts of skiing are beginning to turn in the minds of members of the Chapter's elite Alpine Ski Division (ASD). Chapter life is looking better.

***Bob Olney, N5NT, Recording Secretary***

## **Chapter 45, Citrus (FL)**

On a sad note, our Chapter VP, David Flagg, N4GBH, became an SK. We will miss Dave's service to our Chapter. Carl Zelich, AA4MI, was elected VP to complete Dave's term. On a much brighter note, Al LaPeter, W2AS, was presented with the Distinguished Service Award. He was one of five 2006 QCWA Honorees listed in the Fall



*50-Year Certificate presented to Carl Zelich (R), AA4MI; by Al LaPeter (L), W2AS, Chapter President.*



*Distinguished Service Award presented to Al LaPeter (R), W2AS, by Carl Zelich (L), AA4MI, Chapter Vice-President.*

# CHAPTER REPORTS

issue of the QCWA Journal. Al has been an active member of the Citrus Chapter for over 15 years, much of that time as President. His high energy level keeps us moving. Carl Zelich received his 50-Year Award at the same meeting. Congratulations to Carl. Louis McFadin, W5DID, was re-elected a Director of AMSAT. Lou has been able to provide us with many interesting presentations at our Chapter meetings. Our quarterly social meeting was held at the China First Buffet with good attendance. It is a good opportunity to renew contact with members whose schedules prevent them from attendance at the monthly luncheons.

**Emmett Ward, WA5EWN, Secretary**

## **Chapter 53, Suncoast (FL)**

During the Summer month's Chapter 53 members who remain in our immediate area, have the opportunity to meet together for lunch at the Panda Pavilion Chinese buffet in Venice, FL. Considering that over one-third of our



*Chapter 53 members and friends at our 06 September lunch.*

members are "Snowbirds," we do manage to get a respectable turnout during the Summer. There were 12 Chapter members and friends at our July and August lunches, and 15 at our September lunch. Ah, hams do love to eat!! Effective 04 October, we will return to our regular venue, Denny's, 3701 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota, FL. All QCWA members living in, or visiting, the Florida Suncoast area are always welcome. Please contact the undersigned at w4js@juno.com if you would like to join with us any month of the year.

**Jack Sproat, W4JS, President**

## **Chapter 58, Colorado (CO)**

2007 is the 60th Anniversary of the QCWA and Chapter 58 is pleased to host the 2007 QCWA International Convention next October. The Convention Planning Committee is working hard on your behalf to make your visit an enjoyable one.

We were pleased to have QCWA President John B. Johnston, W3BE, and his wife Betty, N3PKX, visit us on their way back from the Calgary Convention. They took some time from their touring to join a few of us for dinner on Tuesday October 3rd, and provided us with some encouraging words of wisdom. We are looking forward to their return visit for the SEXAGENARY Convention in Denver next October.

**Duanne Thompson, KB6CC**



*Almost shown Mary (WH6BYL, XYL ANH); Pat (XYL RZW); Carl (WH6ANH); Patty (YL CC); Scott (KB6CC); Jim (W9KRE, Chapter 58 President); John (W3BE, QCWA President); Betty (N3PKX, XYL BE); Sol (WOWSK); Marilyn (YL WSK); Jim (WB0VYH); Marlene (XYL VYH); and not shown Ed (WA6RZW, photographer).*



*John (W3BE, QCWA President); Betty (N3PKX, XYL BE); Sol (WOWSK); Marilyn (YL WSK); and back of Carl (WH6ANH).*

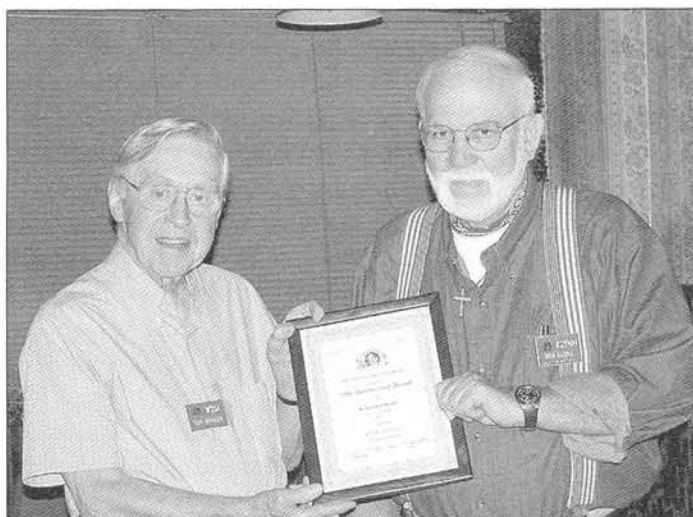


## Chapter 65, Niagara Frontier (NY)

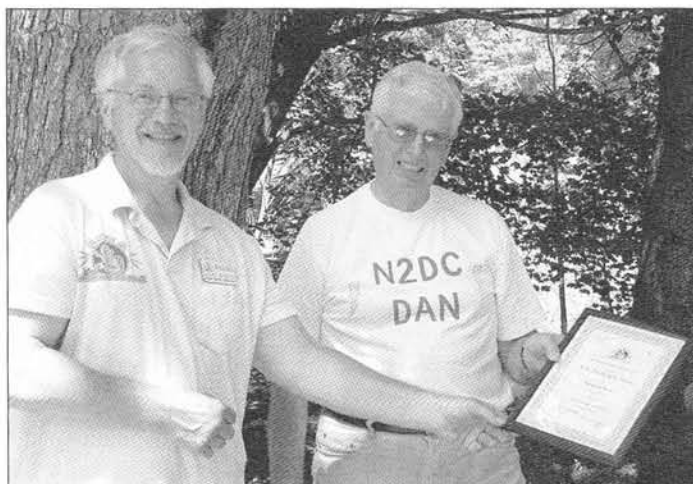
Many of the members do not realize that there is an average of three months between report submission and the time you receive your Journal. By the time you read this, significant events have already taken place in your club. A sizeable amount of our membership (hopefully) has enjoyed the fellowship and festivities at our Christmas party. Feliz Navidad!

As of this writing, we are anticipating the election of Officers and Board of Directors for three-year terms. Congratulations and good luck to the successful candidates!

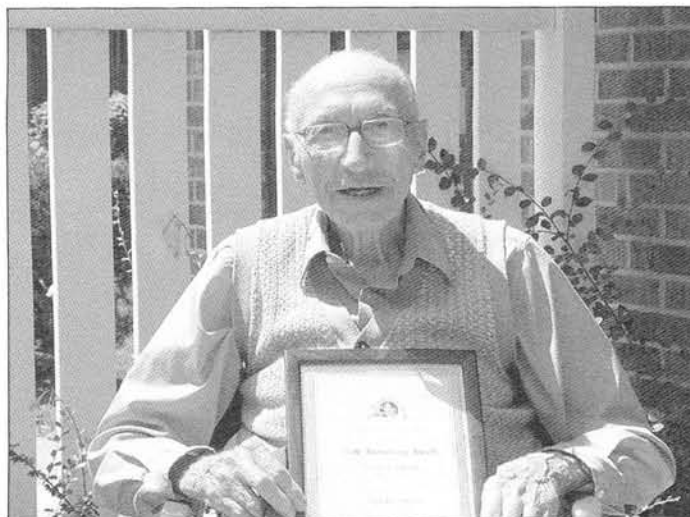
Our Chapter is suffering the same fate that has befallen many others: The influx of new members has not kept pace with non-renewals, relocations, and silent keys. We should all take an active part in recruitment of new members. Let's make 2007 one of our best years ever!



*President Tom Whalen, W2QI, presents Bob Kerns, K2VNM, with his 50-Year Certificate.*



*VP Larry Rybacki, WA2ARA, hands Dan Clark, N2DC, his 55-Year Certificate during our Summer picnic at Dan's QTH.*



*Ed Pirrung, W2OTY, is sporting a happy face with his 70-Year Certificate.*

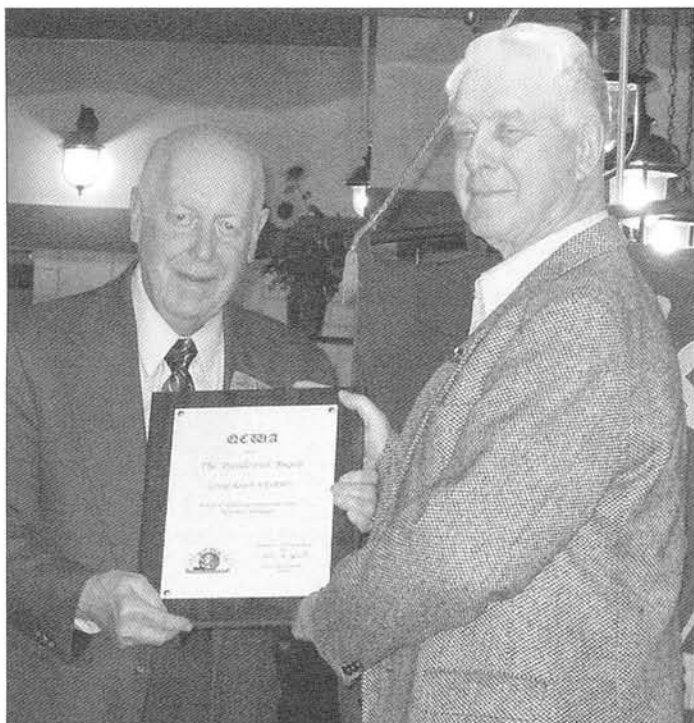
Our weekly net is every Sunday at 1330 local time at 3900 KHZ using club call W2SD. We know that it's hard to pull yourself away from the Buffalo Bills game on TV, but please make an effort to make an appearance - surprise the faithful regulars by joining us!

**Larry Rybacki, WA2ARA, Vice President/Acting Secretary**

## Chapter 70, National Capital (ON)

On 16 May 2006, Chapter 70 held its annual spouses night dinner meeting at which 58 members, spouses and guests were in attendance. This was an especially entertaining evening as there were several presentations. Director Doug Leach, VE3XK, presented a Meritorious Service Award to Dr. Jack Belrose, VE2CV. Licensed in 1949, Jack is a Life Member of QCWA and the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society; a Fellow of the Radio Club of America; Member, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC); Member and TA ARRL. Although retired, Jack, Radioscientist Emeritis, spends a few days each week at the Communications Research Centre Canada (CRCC) in Ottawa. Jack has authored many well-known articles and papers on antennas in various amateur radio publications around the world as well as professional organizations. Jack also has a strong interest in promoting the remembrance of Reginald Aubrey Fessenden. Doug also presented the following QCWA Year Pins and Certificates:

- 60 Year Pin and Certificate, Ken Scrivens, VE3LJ
- 50 Year Pin and Certificate, Tom Bartello, VE3ELM
- 45 Year Pin, Ken Oelke, VE6AFO (not present)
- 40 Year Pin, Robert MacKenzie, VA3RKM (not present)
- 40 Year Pin, James Rowland, VE3GHR
- 35 Year Pin, Ed Pugh, VA3PU
- 35 Year Pin, Bill Bruyn, VE3JBW (not present)



Presidential Award to George Roach, VE3BNO (R), by Croft Taylor, VE3CT (L).



Meritorious Service Award to Dr. Jack Belrose, VE2CV (R), by Doug Leach, VE3XK (L).

Croft Taylor, VE3CT, Past President, QCWA (on behalf of QCWA President, John B. Johnston, W3BE), presented a QCWA Presidential Award to George Roach, VE3BNO, for his excellent work as Chairman of the Activities Committee. This work involves administering the various nets sponsored by QCWA and the QCWA Operating Awards Program. George also received his 60-Year Pin and Certificate

On 19 September, during the Chapter quarterly dinner meeting, Doug, VE3XK, presented the following: 50-Year Anniversary Award and Pin to Joe Parkinson, VE3JG, and a 50-Year Anniversary Award and Pin to new Chapter 70 member Alan Goodacre, VE3HX; 40-Year Pins to Norm

Rashleigh, VE3LC, and Tim Evangelatos, VE3MY; 35-Year Pin to Ken Asmus; 30-Year Pins to Ying Hum, VA3YH (absent); and Wayne Getchell, VE3CZO (absent); and lastly, 25-Year Pins to Richard Ferch, VE3IAY (absent), and Ben Price, VE3CDA (absent).

Following the dinner, David Conn, VE3KL, Chapter 70 Member, guest speaker for the evening, gave a talk on "Polarization in Nature, Technology and Radio". David, a regular contributor to the 'The Canadian Amateur' magazine, showed how polarization is accomplished and its effects on nature, the medical field, certain insects, horizontal, vertical and circular polarization of antennas, and LCD displays. As an example of a circular polarized antenna, David brought along a 900 MHZ Skew Planar antenna, as built by Graham Ide, VE3BYT.

David will be giving this same talk at the upcoming QCWA Convention in Calgary, 28-30 September. Claire Fowler, VE3NPC, thanked David for his interesting and informative talk.

**Claire Fowler, VE3NPC, Secretary**

## **Chapter 85, Ark-La-Tex (LA)**

Chapter 85 held quarterly meetings in April and July at the Bossier City Library. The meetings were well attended. Because many members of our club have a strong interest in space and satellite communications, Roger Ley, WA9PZL, provides an update on amateur satellite communications and US space activities at every meeting and net. In addition, the club's main project involves space communications. The club will install a 2 meter receiver at Sci-Port in Shreveport. The area for space-related activities at Sci-Port should be completed shortly and the receiver placed at that time. The receiver will be tuned to the International Space Station (ISS) amateur radio frequency. Visitors to Sci-Port will be able to hear amateur radio signals from the ISS. Many visitors to Sci-Port are school-aged children and others who are interested in space and science.

We will attempt to have one or more brief talks or discussions at each future meeting. The talks or discussions will be presented either by members or invited guests. At the July meeting, John Stewart, AA5KV discussed the z-match tuner, Ben McCasland, WA5PTE described a low noise, 80 meter coaxial dipole antenna, and Mike McCrary, WB5IJQ, showed his Icom IC-91AD transceiver. Mike will describe the capabilities of D-STAR at our next meeting and update the group on plans to set up a D-STAR repeater in the Ark-La-Tex.

Our informal luncheons ("The Lunch Bunch") at Luby's Cafeteria in Bossier City are held every Thursday at 11 AM. Roger Ley, WA9PZL; Bonnie Brown, W5TEB; Tom



Brown, K5UIC, and his wife Marge; Jim Howard, K5TC; and John Stewart, AA5KV, are regulars. Other recent attendees include: JD Alexander, W5VMY, and Troy Ballard, W5AU. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Monday night Chapter Net on the 146.67 repeater will be held at 7:30 PM (rather than 8 PM local time) with the switch to Central Standard Time. Everyone is welcome to participate.

**John Stewart, AA5KV**

## **Chapter 89, Palmetto (SC)**

South Carolina Palmetto Chapter 89 met Saturday, September 30th, at Fire Mountain Grill on Bower Parkway, Columbia SC.

We had a good turnout with members and their guests. We had one new member, KA4TWK, William Lennon who joined our Chapter today; also, two visitors were welcomed.

50-Year Certificates were awarded to Raymond "Fritz" Nitsch, W4NT0; Bryce Myers, K4LXF and J T Green, K4ILT. Charlie Thomson, K4CLT, also was awarded a 50-Year Certificate but was unable to attend to receive it in



50 year certificates were awarded by Bill Pennekamp WA4WGP chapter Pres., From left, Fritz Nitch W4NT0, Bryce Myers K4LXF, and J T Green K4ILT



Officers for the year 2007 were installed. From Left, Bill Pennekamp WA4WGP, President, Jenny Myers WA4NGV, 1st VP and Bryce Myers K4LXF 2nd VP.

person.

The new Officers for 2007 were elected. Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, President; Jenny Myers, WA4NGV, 1st Vice President; and Bryce Myers, K4LXF, 2nd Vice President. Jim Hill, W5AQP, will continue in the office of Secretary/Treasurer through 2007.

**Ralph Mott, N4RM**

## **Chapter 91, Vic Clark (VA)**

At our July meeting, Chapter President Ray Johnson, K5RJ, presented awards from QCWA. Special recognition was given to Wayne Cooper, AG4R, for his 75 years in amateur radio. First-licensed in 1931 as W6EWC, his first station was a tuned-grid, tuned-plate (TNT) transmitter, with a pair of type 45 tubes in the final, complemented by a 3-tube regenerative receiver; both units were home-built.

His long career as a radio communications specialist for United Fruit Co. gave him the opportunity to enjoy his hobby from sites in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Miami as YN1WC, HR2WC, and K4ZZV. His son, Wayne Cooper, Jr., joined us in celebration. That's Wayne, Sr., in the photo receiving his award from Ray.



(L) Wayne, Sr., in the photo receiving his award from Ray.

Other awards earned were these:

65th Anniversary Award to W. R. Dunning, K4YG, and Bob Fasulkey, W3BBQ; 60th Anniversary Award to Vern Hill, W4DZI, and Bernie Keiser, W4SW; 55th Anniversary Award to Norm Heck, W3NN, and Maury Shumaker, W4HYB; 50th Anniversary Award to Joan Johnson, K4JRJ; and the Century Club Award to Lew Bradley, W4SWP, George Paull, W4QXO, and Bernie Keiser, W4SW.

Our featured speaker was Chapter member Steve Floyd, W4YHD, who is employed by BAE Systems and is

currently serving as the Chief Engineer for all aspects of radio frequency engineering at the HAARP site. Steve briefed us on HAARP and its soon-to-be-completed Ionospheric Research Instrument (IRI).

The High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) program is a scientific endeavor aimed at studying the properties and behavior of the ionosphere. The site is located in the boondocks of Alaska at 62° north latitude and 200 miles east of Anchorage. It was purchased by the USAF for one of its over-the-horizon, backscatter (OTH-B) radars, but it was never built because the Cold War ended, and so it became available for this purpose.

The IRI consists of a large phased-array antenna system driven by a large number of transmitters. It can produce one or two steerable high-energy beams of RF energy directed skyward to stimulate the ionosphere. The photo shows Steve holding one of the Eimac 4CX10,000D tetrodes that are operated push-pull in each 10 kilowatt transmitter. There will soon be 360 such transmitters, each one driving one of the 360 dipole antennas that make up the phased array, that can produce a combined steerable output of 3.6 megawatts!



*Steve holding one of the Eimac 4CX10,000D tetrodes that are operated push-pull in each 10 kilowatt transmitter.*

Steve gave one example of the kind of research that can be done by noting that the site happens to lie under the Auroral Electrojet, a naturally-occurring electrical current that flows continuously around the North Pole at the heights of the D & E ionization layers. With the IRI, researchers will be able to excite the electrojet with a variety of modulated signals, with the expectation that the electrojet will re-radiate those signals in a manner that will penetrate far below the earth's surface. If successful, this work could lead to the development of a means of probing for oil/gas reserves and other mineral deposits; looking for the existence of caves, tunnels, and underground bunkers; finding the location of submarines underwater;

mapping the ocean floors. There are possible communication applications as well.

In response to a question about the environmental effects of such activity, Steve noted that natural lightning has, for a very long time, stimulated the electrojet with much higher power levels than would ever be possible from a man-made system. No one has yet documented any ill-effects from lightning stimulating the electrojet.

Steve also told us about the Over-The-Horizon-Backscatter (OTH-B) radar systems that the Soviet Union and the United States built during the Cold War and about a recent visit he made to a decommissioned site located in Maine.

For more on both the IRI and the history of OTH-B radar systems, see the Chapter's website at <http://homepage.mac.com/rucker/chapter91/>.

In August, 27 members and guests toured an Aurora Flight Sciences facility located on the airport serving Manassas, Virginia, to see and learn about their



*27 members and guests toured an Aurora Flight Sciences facility located on the airport serving Manassas, Virginia.*

Unmanned Air Vehicles (UAVs) and related products. Our tour guide was Chuck Wilkins, Manager of Public Affairs for Aurora.

Aurora Flight Sciences was founded in 1989 by a team at MIT that began designing, building, and flying human-powered aircraft. Their crowning achievement was Daedalus 88 in which the world's endurance record for human-powered flight was set in 1989. The pilot powered and flew the aircraft over 72 miles in little less than 4 hours from Crete to the island of Santorini.

Aurora is now the largest, privately-owned, "pure play" developer of UAVs in the world and has this facility as well as others at Clarksburg WV, Starkville MS, and Cambridge MA. For details, see our website.

We then ventured into the restored old town of Manassas for lunch at Foster's Grille cafe, located across the railroad tracks from the recently-restored and still active railroad train station that now serves the customers





*Lew, W4SWP, working the grille for the September pot luck.*

of the Norfolk Southern and AMTRAK lines.

In September, over twenty members and guests gathered at the Alexandria, VA, home of Lew, W4SWP, and Marolyn Bradley, to enjoy Lew's excellent grilled hamburgers, shared pot luck, and just being together on a pleasant Fall day.

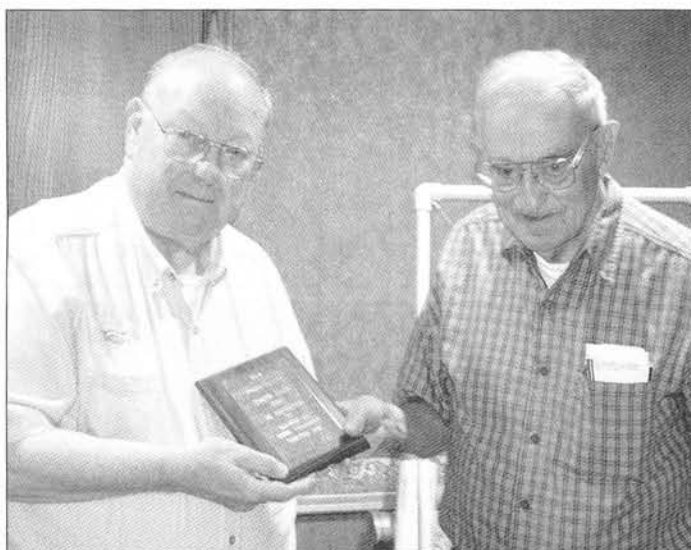
For more about these events and the photo albums covering them, please visit our website.

**Dick Rucker, KM4ML, Secretary**

## **Chapter 102, Dakota (ND/SD)**

The Dakota Chapter's big event this Summer was their get-together and dinner in Mobridge, SD on Saturday, August 26, 2006. We met at the Wrangler Motor Inn's Windjammers lounge and restaurant. I wish to thank Roland Cory, WOYMB, and his wife Helen, KAOHMH, for their work and arrangements they made with the Inn's and restaurant staff. We wish to thank the Mobridge ARC President Lee Keszler, NYOX, and his wife who also attended for their support.

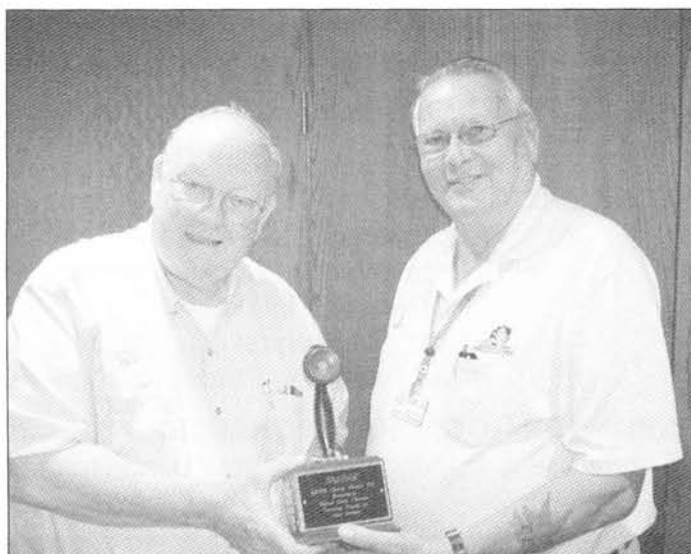
Members who attended were John, NOMEA, from Castlewood, SD; Gary, WAOZWZ, from Redfield, SD; Tom, NI0I, from Sioux Falls, SD; Frank, NU0F, from Rapid City, SD; John, WOAZJ, from Wolsey, SD; Roland, WOYMB, from Mobridge, SD; Tony, K7TNY, from Gladstone, ND; Bill, KOUB, from Dickinson, ND; Scott, WA0VKC, from Piedmont, SD; and new Chapter member David, K8BBM, from Selby, SD. The total attendance was 21; this includes members, guests and their wives. Most members had to drive over 150 miles to get to this meeting.



*Frank, NU0F, receiving plaque from Roland Cory, WOYMB.*



*Chapter 102 elected officers: (left to right) President, Frank Shaw, NU0F; Vice President, Bill Bosch, KOUB; and Secretary/Treasurer, Roland Cory, WOYMB.*



*Vice President, Bill, KOUB, presenting Chapter's Traveling Trophy to Frank, NU0F.*

*(continued on page 30)*

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH !

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## Colorful Colorado Not to be Missed !

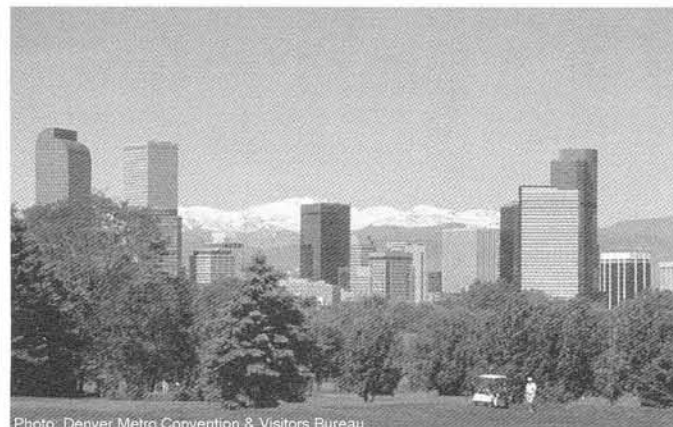


Photo: Denver Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau

**2007**  
**QCWA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**Denver, Colorado, USA**  
4 - 7 October 2007  
<http://qcwa-58.rmhc.org/convention>

Hosted By  
**Colorado Chapter 58**  
@  
The Doubletree Hotel, 3203 Quebec Street  
Denver, CO 80207 USA

### **The Doubletree Hotel, 3203 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207 USA**

Rooms are available at \$113.70 (\$99.00 + taxes). The price is guaranteed until 1 Sep 07, after which there is no guarantee that the rate can be honored. **For reservations - contact the hotel directly at 1-800-222-TREE (8733) or 303-321-3333 (locally) and be sure to mention QCWA for this special rate.** The hotel has a complementary airport shuttle, high speed internet, fitness center, as well as many other amenities that will make your visit enjoyable.

**REGISTRATION:** Registration will be available on-line or by mail. After registering on-line, your payment must be received through the mail to guarantee your registration. For those who register (and pay) before 1 Sep 07, a pre-registration prize along with added savings will be available. Details to follow.

**RECEPTION/HOSPITALITY:** We kick off the convention with a Meet & Greet evening. What better way to get to know all convention attendees than by socializing with a buffet meal, cash bar, and entertainment by the world famous **4th U.S. Artillery Regimental Brass Band**.

**PRESENTATIONS/SEMINARS:** There are a variety of seminars planned for Friday and Saturday, plus the QCWA Forum!

### **TOURS/ACTIVITIES:**

- Georgetown Loop Railroad
- Wings Over the Rockies aerospace museum
- The Denver Mint
- Blackhawk/Central City gambling casino tour
- Pikes Peak / Air Force Academy / Garden of the Gods

**SPONSOR - COLORADO CHAPTER 58** established in November 1971: The Convention Planning Committee is working hard on your behalf to make your visit an enjoyable one.

**COLORFUL COLORADO - NOT TO BE MISSED !**

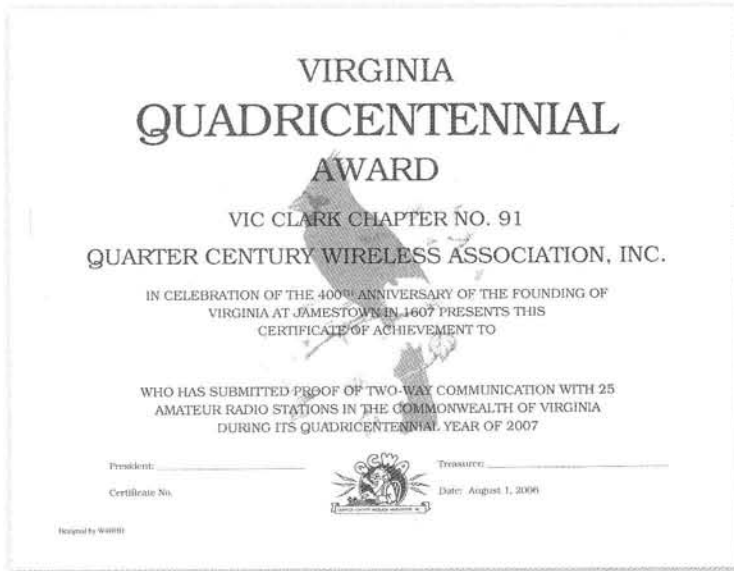


# Chapter 91 celebrates the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown

In 1607 the first permanent English settlement in the New World was founded on the east bank of a river, on a spit of land 40 miles upstream from where that river empties into the Atlantic Ocean. Its founders, some 100 in number, sailed over on three vessels: the Susan Constant, the Godspeed, and the Discovery. They landed first at Cape Henry, near what is now known as Virginia Beach.

Seeking a more secure location, they ventured upstream into what is now known as the James River, and they named their new settlement Jamestown. Both were named in honor of their king, James I.

The Commonwealth of Virginia will be celebrating the 400th anniversary of that founding during the year of 2007. The Vic Clark Chapter 91 of QCWA is joining in that celebration by offering an award to all licensed radio amateurs for confirmed contacts made on the amateur radio bands during 2007.



This award, a colorful certificate 8 by 11 inches in size, will be available to all amateurs satisfying the following requirements.

1. The award will be issued for confirmed two-way contacts with 25 different stations in the State of Virginia during the quadricentennial year of 2007.
2. Contacts must be between 0000 UTC 1 January 2007 and 2400 UTC 31 December 2007.
3. Certificates will be serially numbered in the order issued and signed by the Chapter President and Treasurer.
4. Contacts may be made on any frequency authorized for amateur use. Contacts through a repeater will not be creditable.
5. Any mode legal on the frequency used will be acceptable.
6. Applicants must submit a list of contacts claimed including: call, date and time (UTC), band/frequency, mode, QTH, and name of operator. Each application must include a signed statement certifying the list to be accurate.
7. There will be a fee of \$2.00 for applicants in North America. (Check, cash, or money order only. No credit cards or stamps accepted.) Certificates will be gratis to stations outside North America but donations will be accepted.
8. Applications for the award will be accepted until 1 July 2008 at:

**Vic Clark Chapter 91, QCWA  
P. O. Box 4112  
Merrifield, VA 22116-4112**

(continued from page 27)

A highlight of the evening was when QCWA Vice President Bill Bosch, NU0F, addressed our group. He said this was his last official act as VP. We wished him good luck and we appreciated his work for QCWA. During the meeting the following Chapter Officers were re-elected: President Frank Shaw, NU0F; Vice President, Bill Bosch-KOUB; and Secretary/Treasurer, Roland Cory, WOYMB. Bill, KOUB, officially presented the Chapter 102 Traveling Special Event Trophy to Frank, NU0F; he gets to keep it for one year until the next Special Event operation. Cory, WOYMB, also presented an engraved plaque to Frank in recognition of his long-time service as Dakota Chapter 102 President. Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned and dinner was served.

*Frank Shaw, NU0F, President*

## **Chapter 119, Tidewater (VA)**

After Field Day, events in Chapter 119 slowed down in anticipation of the big Hamfest and Computer Show scheduled in late summer (Mid-September). The monthly Meet 'n Greet 'n Eat meetings were held in July and August with the usual group of members and friends glad for the opportunity to share fellowship. The Third Quarter General Membership meeting was held in September at the hamfest. The business meeting was very short as our time slot was superimposed on the QCWA Forum, which was ably conducted by President Johnston, W3BE. It is always a pleasure to have President Johnston at our meetings or activities, and he inspired a good turnout for the forum. The highlight of the hamfest, however, was the banquet sponsored by the Virginia DX Century Club, where our own member Jose Castillo, N4BAA (also President of the VADXCC), was awarded a most significant achievement in DX operations – the Five Band Worked All Zones (5-BWAZ) award #693. This was a signal achievement in a long history of achievements racked up by Jose. Congratulations!

At the QCWA business meeting a proposal was made by the NCS of the QCWA Chapter 119 HF net that the start time be rolled back to 0700 local time to permit longer enjoyment of better propagation in order to accommodate the growing list of check-ins from around the state and the region. Bob, K4JDJ, runs a great net and the excitement and enjoyment seemingly grows with each net. The net now begins at 0700 on Sunday mornings, and runs till about 9 a.m. when the local members tend to move over to the QCWA Chapter 119 Sunday Roundtable, a VHF net on the 146.895- repeater. Both nets continue to do very well and are helping the Chapter to grow.

Chapter 119 is growing. In the past quarter, several new members and renewals have been added to the membership roster, including: Scott Harwood, Sr., K4VWK; James Jackson, KD2FN; Glenn James, NV4NV; John Johnson, KOIBS; Nick Karangelen, W4LSG; Tom Lawrence, N4ATV; John E. Smith, W4HDW; Chester Trent, WB2STN; and renewing with National QCWA, Bill Verebeley, W4WV. Congratulations to all of you gentlemen for your support of QCWA and Chapter 119.

Chapter 119 is ON THE AIR – following are excerpts from some reports received following contest activities:

"Had fun in the (European) RTTY contest... Here is my score for the full 10 hours I operated – 86,940 points... I took my 80Meter dipole down last week and guess where I lost the WHOLE CONTEST... You guessed it... 80 meters... I used my 160M vertical and my internal tuner just didn't quite cut it... Then there was the CQ DX VHF Contest... ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS WOW!!!! ...I did work 400 QSOs on 6M in 4 hours ...HEARD 32 COUNTRIES ON 6M ...SSB AND CW!!! Two new ones for me were YN4SU and HP3XUG!!! N4BAA.

I made 82 QSOs in the CQ DX VHF 6 meter contest. I worked 62 grid squares. That gives me a score of 5084 that included 5 new states from Virginia with Washington being the furthest. Conditions were superb throughout the contest period. I was primarily looking for new states and new grid squares. I spent most of my time tuning around and listening for calls that would give me one or both of my objectives. I did work 5 new states in the contest: CT, MT, UT, WA, and WV. I've now worked 40 states from VA. Barry, K5VIP.

Virginia QSO Party Results: I was surprised today when I opened the mail and received a 2006 Virginia QSO Party "2nd High Station -Virginia Beach" certificate. For just a second or two I said to myself, I wonder who was 1st. Then I remembered, Jose was "All Time High, Virginia QSO Party" with 387,466 points. For those of you wondering just how far down the rest of us Chapter 119 members were in the standings, here is a tabulation for VBX: N4BAA, 387,466; W8RJL, 17,754; W4VIC, 7,160; and KI4VB, 3,990. Note - Jack Bennett, W4ZPR, was a 40 meter mobile "rover" and racked up 5,112 points. Ed, Bill, and Jim are Friends of QCWA Chapter 119 and submitted the following scores: KN4KL, 6,478; WA4EUL, 2,291; and KN4IJ, 475. Ron, W8RJL.

My score as calculated by Win-EQF "Cabrillo" is 3,942 and was acknowledged by the CQ robot. Sonny, K4WYS.

I worked 6 grids on 2 meters in the ARRL September VHF QSO Party. John, WA4EPI.

These individual reports indicate fine support for Chapter 119 in on the air activity. And although the reports were edited, perhaps you caught a note of the



## **Chapter 120, Quarter Century Wireless Women, QCWW**

Chapter 120 is moving forward. We held our annual meeting at the 2006 QCWA Convention in Calgary. Good friends, great weather and the excellent work of the Convention Committee made it the perfect place to present and adopt our proposal to become a virtual chapter. Current membership in QCWA will still be required, but no annual fees will be collected from current Chapter 120 members, as we will conduct our business on the internet, as well as post the sYLver sparks on the website.

President Carolyn chaired the meeting. Nine members were present.

We voted for our executive who will serve for the next two years. They are: President, Janice Lentz, K4IJK; VP Carolyn Harrison, WB0OUM; Treasurer, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO; and Secretary, Ann Nutter, VE3HAI. Bob Roske, N0OF, will remain our Webmaster and Certificate Custodian and our two Directors will be confirmed shortly.

We had a lively discussion on many issues and worked out most of the details that will appear in our next newsletter. The attached photo was taken at the end of our very productive meeting. We also took this opportunity to honor the two stalwarts of our club, Bob and Larry. A photo of Carolyn presenting the QCWA Certificate of Merit for 2005 to Larry, and the 2006 Award to Bob will be in our next newsletter. Minutes will be posted on the website shortly.

***Ann Nutter, VE3HAI, Secretary***



*Chapter 120 members attending the 2006 QCWA International Convention in Calgary Alberta, Canada 28-30 September were (seated left to right) Carolyn, WB0OUM, QCWA Director and Chapter 120 Vice-President; Blanche, W4GXZ, QCWA Director; Janice, K4IJK, Chapter President; (standing, left to right) Larry, WA9JMO, Chapter Treasurer; Gary, K0BC, former QCWA President; Ann, VE3HAI, Chapter Secretary; Frances, VE3HKG; George, VE3BMO, former QCWA Board member; and Bob, N0UF.*



*Member Jose Castillo, N4BAA proudly displays his 5-BWAZ plaque #693 awarded at the Virginia DX Century Club Banquet at the September Hamfest and Computer Show in Virginia Beach.*

enthusiasm and pride with which the scores were reported, not only by the big scorers, but by those of us who had little time to devote to the activities but who got in the fray and gave it all we could. I would like to note that Chapter 119 took SECOND PLACE in the standings among Active QCWA Chapters in the Spring QCWA QSO Party. Unfortunately, the local hamfest, amateur radio upgrade exams, and DX banquets all took away from our performance on the Fall QCWA QSO Party. In fact, I had not one single report of participation. We shall rectify this situation and challenge all chapters to be ready for us in the Spring QCWA QSO Party in 2007!

Finally, Member Lee Ruetz, WA5RDO, sent along the following information that might be of interest to QCWA members. "A new book has been released recently detailing the account of our brother ham, Captain Kurt Carlsen, W2ZXM/MM, who stayed with his ship, damaged by a North Atlantic hurricane and 60-foot waves while rescue and salvage were attempted. The use of his ham radio played a major part in the operation. Simple Courage - by Frank Delaney. Check out the full story at <http://www.telegraph-office.com> Lee, WA5RDO

***Vic Culver, W4VIC, Secretary/Treasurer***

## **Chapter 126, Piedmont (NC)**

The Piedmont Chapter 126 of QCWA held its quarterly meeting on Saturday, September 9 at the Golden Corral Family Restaurant in Durham, N. C. There were 9 members and guests present.

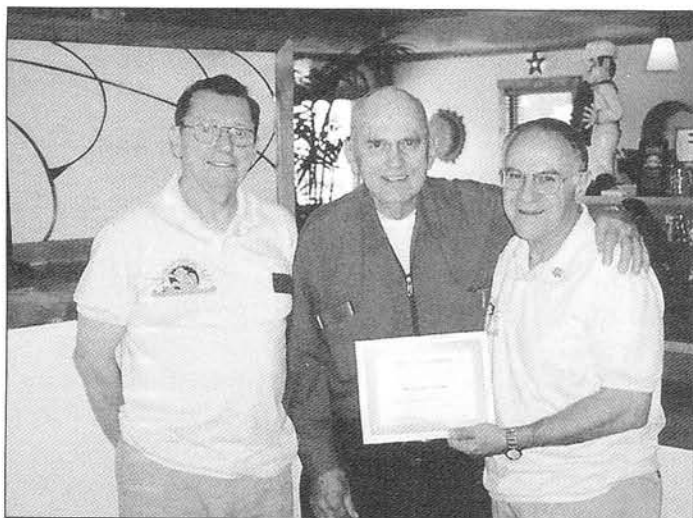
After the Board Meeting of the Officers, the general meeting began at 11:30 AM with introductions by all persons present. We made the announcement of our new member Ray Albers, K2HYD. The Treasurer's Report was given by the President. During the last quarter, we had 12 net meetings with 104 check-ins. W4DGJ was the only member who made all 12 nets. More details will be in the QCWacker, the Chapter Newsletter. The net meets on 3935 at 8:45 AM local time on Saturday mornings. The QCWA QSO Party will be the weekend of September 16 – 17; info in September QST. We are looking for input for the QCWACKER. If you have any comments/info, please share them with the Chapter Secretary or president. Our fourth quarter 2006 meeting will be at Yarborough's Restaurant in Lexington, NC on December 2. Following our business session, we went through the serving line and got our meal.

Wes Jones, WJ4DX, a member of our Chapter, was the guest speaker. He obtained his 3rd class radio license in 1968 while still in high school. He is still in the broadcast industry and, although there have been many changes in the industry, he looks forward to getting up each morning and going to work!!!! Wes provided information about the changing landscape in the broadcast industry. Mergers, computers, changes in federal statutes have all contributed to a rapidly changing landscape. One comment that I found interesting was his statement that the weather bureau gets its up to-date info from Skywarn. If you want current info about what is happening on the ground, you need to tune into the Skywarn ham radio nets! Wes did admit that he owned a CB radio in the 60's. Wes' presentation was very interesting and elicited comments and questions from the audience.

***Charlie Swindell, WB4DCM, Secretary***

## **Chapter 138, Marconi (NJ)**

Marconi Chapter 138 held its annual awards dinner at the Java Moon Café in Wall, NJ on May 17. Service anniversary awards were presented to Paul Anselmo, AE2S (65 years); Bob McKinley, W2OMR (65 years); Bob Boule, W2OKM (65 years); Murray Goldberg, KD2IN (55 years); Walter Prang, KZ5WP (55 years); Mat Bregoff, W2AOJ (55 years); Al Posbergh, W2DTP (55 years); Frank Gudicello, K2TVY (50 years); Elson Kendall,



*President Bernie Ricciardi, WB2EJT, presents the Golden Jubilee Award to Walter Prang, KZ5WP with Bob Buus, W2OD, looking on at the Marconi Chapter 138 Annual Awards dinner meeting.*

W2INL (50 years); and Doug Bowker, WN1FVQ (50 years). Diamond Jubilee Awards (50-Years Continuously Licensed and 75-years old) were presented to Walter Prang, KZ5WP; Al Posbergh, W2DTP; and Sterling Rodgers, N2GT. Congratulations to all!

In other business, the Chapter made donations to the QCWA National Scholarship fund and to the Infoage Learning Center.

On Tuesday, May 30, the Chapter sponsored a field trip to the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey at the Sea Girt Army Camp. The interesting displays included an extensive collection of military vehicles, aircraft, weapons, uniforms, flags, insignia, and various hand weapons. The highlight of the displays was a Civil War hand-powered submarine. After the tour, we went to lunch at a local restaurant.

***Bob Buus, W2OD, Secretary***

## **Chapter 146, Twin State Chapter (NH)**

The Twin State Chapter had their Fall Foliage meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2006, at Sean & Nora's Restaurant in Barre, VT. This meeting was held in our Northern most area before Old Man Winter pops his head up and blankets us with a white four-letter word "snow". Sorry, I know we're not suppose to use that kind of language here at QCWA, but in all seriousness, driving can be a hazard in our states after October 1st, especially for older drivers. We had 21 members and friends attend this meeting. We had two other Chapters represented: namely, the Pioneer Chapter and Yankee Chapter. Thank you all for coming and making this event so successful.

A sandwich buffet was served to the members. When lunch was completed, we enjoyed a short but interesting





(L to R) Twin State Chapter friend, Elizabeth Dodge; Pioneer Chapter Contingent, K1ILZ, Larry Smith; N1CET, Pat Smith; and W1BMK, Norm Gregoire.

Business Meeting. Everyone gave their name and a short story about how they became interested in Amateur Radio. Many of the stories were very humorous. Ask Carl, N1CB, and Cheryl, WA1WEY, about how a 2-meter rig took precedence over even a good-looking girl.

W1US, "Doc" Kelemen, was assigned the duty of presenting a slate of Officers at this meeting. He presented: Ray Makul, K1XV, for another term as President; Ed Feustel, N5EI, for another term as Vice President and Webmaster; Cheryl Breuning, WA1WEY, for another term as Secretary/Treasurer. They were elected unanimously.

Our Chapter, along with the help of Pioneer Chapter, will again hold the NE Chapter joint meeting in the Summer of 2007. Further information to follow at a later date.

Don't forget our Sunday morning net on 3.912Mhz at 8:30AM and our Thursday night net on Mtn. Ascutney repeater 146.76 Mhz in Windsor, VT. at 7:00PM.

Happy Holidays to all!

**Cheryl Breuning, WA1WEY, Secretary**

## **Chapter 150, DEL-MAR (VA)**

On May 21, 2006, Chapter 150 had its annual picnic at the QTH of Dick Drevo, W3GNQ, in Lewes, Delaware. The weather was good and the food excellent. A very nice get-together was well attended and enjoyed by all.

In 2006, Chapter 150 had four members who were presented Distinguished Member Certificates (Anniversary Awards). They were Walt Brink, W3WPY - 55 years, Joe Cutchin, Jr., W3ETT - 55 years, Dick Drevo, W3GNQ - 50 years, and Mike McClanahan, W3RMM - 50 years. Last, but not least, there was a Certificate of Appreciation from QCWA that was given to Ed Hill, W3FEG, at his 100th birthday party in January 2006. Ed has been licensed since 1934.

On a more somber note, I am sorry to report that this



Chapter 150 VP Frank Wessely, KA3UUC, (standing) presenting 55-Year Award to Walt Brink, W3WPY.



Chapter 150 Secretary/Treasurer, John Willmuth, NQ4Q, (left) presenting 55-Year award to Joe Cutchin, Jr., W3ETT.

past June, Buddy Brink, the XYL of Walt Brink, W3WPY, passed away after suffering a heart attack. Buddy attended many QCWA functions with Walt over the years and will be missed.

Chapter 150 welcomed the following new members this year. They are Ruley Banks, WA3FYS; Bill Prettyman, W3HRT; and Art Sowers, W4PON. The "official" membership of Chapter 150 is small (26 members) but it continues to grow as the population of the area increases.

Most of our meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at the Milton House Restaurant in Milton, Delaware. The meeting time is 11:30 AM. We sometimes have our meetings at other locations and on weekends to allow those members unable to attend on Wednesdays an option.

Please visit our website at



Dick Drevo, W3GNQ, (left) and Mike McClanahan, W3RMM, displaying their 50-Year Awards presented at the picnic in May.



Ed Hill, W3FEG, at his 100th birthday party in January 2006. Ed was first officially licensed in 1934.

<http://www.qsl.net/qcwa150>. Should you visit Maryland's eastern shore, we have a 9:00 AM Sunday morning Chapter 150 net on the Salisbury, Maryland 146.22/82 MHz repeater.

**John Willmuth, NQ4Q Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Chapter 151, Wild Rose (AB)**

Chapter 151 was host to the 2006 QCWA International Convention from September 28 to 30, 2006. On September 28th there was a meeting of the QCWA Board of Directors (photo on the cover of this Journal.)

Registration began on Thursday and continued until Saturday noon. In total, 125 came to enjoy a great Convention representing AB, BC, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, ON, PA, RI, TX, VA, and WI. Sessions began on Friday with topics on QRP, The Astrolabe, Neuron Waves (pharmaceutical), Amateur Radio in Schools and Polarization of Radio and Optical Waves. Sessions continued on Saturday beginning with



(L) QCWA President John B. Johnston, W3BE, presented 3 awards, one of which was presented to Convention Chair and President of Chapter 151, Ken Oelke, VE6AFO (R).

the QCWA Annual General Meeting followed by talks on Getting Wired Another Way, IARU World Radio Conference - 2007, Radio Astronomy, and Amateur on Model Rockets. Of course no convention would be complete without a Meet and Greet reception (western style) and the Saturday evening banquet. QCWA President John B. Johnston, W3BE, presented 3 awards one of which was presented to Convention Chair and President of Chapter 151, Ken Oelke, VE6AFO. As well, QCWA Director Ed Yoder, W3YMB, and IARU President, Dr Larry Price, W4RA, both received Awards.

There was an old radio and tube display along with tours to the Aero Space Museum, Calgary Exhibition & Stampede Casino and Stage West Theatre on Sunday. As well, the ladies enjoyed shopping excursions and side trips of beautiful Calgary.

We even had our own Moon Base. The Calgary Space Workers Society put on an interesting demonstration on the hotel parking lot. They are a group desiring to live and work in space. Their principles are to support all space initiatives, space tourism and a more peaceful world. One day they plan to build and launch their own spaceship. Check out their website at [www.calgaryspaceworkers.com](http://www.calgaryspaceworkers.com).

The Fall meeting of Chapter 151 did not take place in lieu of the Convention. The next meeting will be held sometime in April, 2007.

**Jack Ambler, VE6CAQ, Secretary**



## Chapter 162, Southeast Wisconsin (WI)

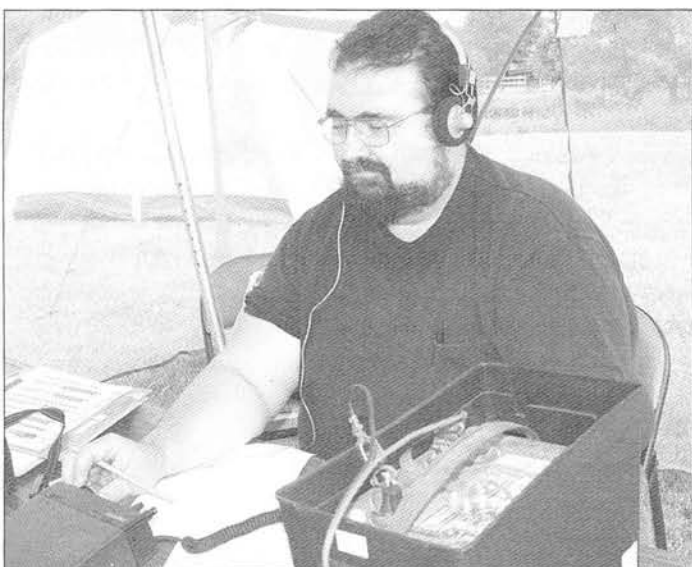
### • SUMMER 2006

Field Day 2006 has slipped into history; the tents and antennas have been taken down and stored with the batteries and radios until next needed. That may be a community disaster, an anomaly of nature or next year's scheduled Field Day outing. Chapter 162 members like to view Field Day as an exercise training that prepares and hones their ability to transmit information should their community need their emergency communication skills and equipment.

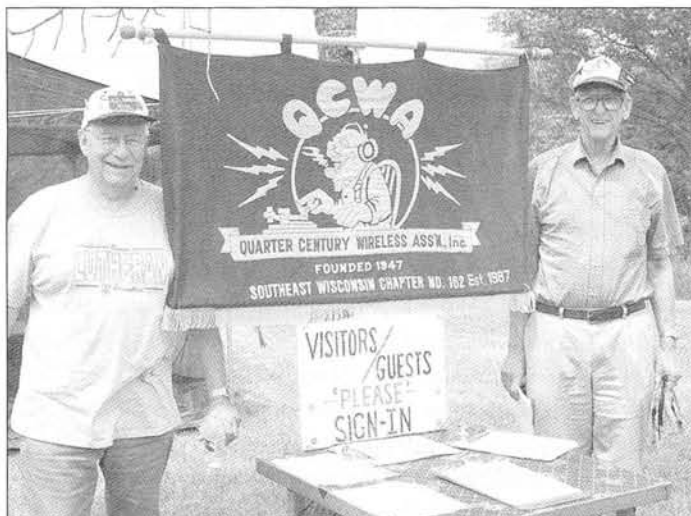
Operating 4-Alpha QRP Battery, K9AKG (Chapter 162's Club Call) garnered about 1900 Field Day points, utilizing 4-tents, 4-Transceivers and a similar number of horizontal wire antennas crisscrossing each other over the tent array we operated from. Our yearly goal is to set up,



Mark Swartwout, NX1K, setting up a CW transceiver prior to Chapter 162's start of Field Day 2006.



Tom Jensen, WB9WNZ, on 40-meter phone during Field Day 2006.



Ron Fox, K9AKG, and Ken Knoff, N9NBC, standing with the Chapter Banner beside the Field Day 2006 visitor's log and sign-in table.

make at least one contact and have a great time. I am happy to report that this goal was once again achieved thanks to the effort of: Ron Fox, K9AKG; Lloyd Gorsiski, WB9RGO; Gene Haney, WB9ZKY; Tom Jenkins, WB9WNZ; Dick Kehl, WA9HOH; Ken Knoff, N9NBC; Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; Ed Konicek, W9NVK; Larry McCauly, WA9JMO; Harv Friedrich, N9NDP; Mark Swartwout, NX1K; and our newest member, Jim Hoffman, KA9LOK.

We also wish to thank Gene, WB9ZKY, and Bonnie, WB9ZKX, for the wonderful sandwiches; Harv, N9NDP, for donuts; Lloyd, WB9RGO, for the ice, water and soda; Ken, N9NBC, for the batteries, tent and other gear; Jim, KA9LOK, for his tent; Dick, WA9HOH, and Gene, WB9ZKY, for the set-up and Amateur Television contact and equipment; the person or persons who brought the other donuts and fruit; and if I missed anyone, the fault is mine, please accept my apologies.

And a special thanks to Mark, NX1K, for long hours spent on the CW bands. Instead of the long ride back to the QTH Saturday evening and returning the next morning, Mark opted to overnight in a sleeping bag on the floor of one of the tents. Unlike last year, no loud animal fights disturbed his sleep; only the rains that arrived about 5:30 the next morning gently awoke him.

I am happy to say that Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ, is back at home and has been joining us regularly on our Thursday 9 PM two-meter net. Just prior to Field Day, our net control operator and Field Day Chairman was taken to the hospital with chest pain. A Flight-for-Life helicopter ride up to Milwaukee's St Luke's Hospital netted a Pace Maker, Defibrillator and a very speedy recovery. Ken was able to stop out and visit our Field Day site on both days. He was looking very good, a bit tired. It was nice to see him and Marbeth join us for the event.

At this writing, we are planning the annual picnic agenda for the second Sunday in August and working on a slate of candidates for directors and the election that will commence with our annual meeting in October.

Enjoy the Summer and all the wonderment it has to offer.

## • WINTER 2006

Our Secretary/Treasurer, Ken Knoff, N9NBC, has experienced a medical set-back. And although he is fast mending and well on the road of recovery, is not up to his usual energy level and has opted not to run for the Board of Directors. Perhaps after sitting out a term, he may be able to assume another officer position. Ken has also been our weekly net control rock for the past seven or eight years. He will step down from that weekly task with other Chapter members filling in for a month at a time. Ken will be providing the needed guidance to the incoming Secretary/Treasurer at our October 15th annual meeting and election. The term of four of our seven Directors is coming to an end and the Nominating Committee, at this writing, has a list of six candidates for the members to select from.

Our Annual Meeting will be held at Bentley American Grille in the Marriott Hotel with the Chapter picking up the meal cost. A detailed report on the election, the Olie Fox, K9AKG Award of Excellence, and Christmas party, plus pictures, will be our Spring Journal Report. That and the highlights from my trip to the QCWA International Convention in Calgary (provided I have some highlights) will also appear in that Journal article.

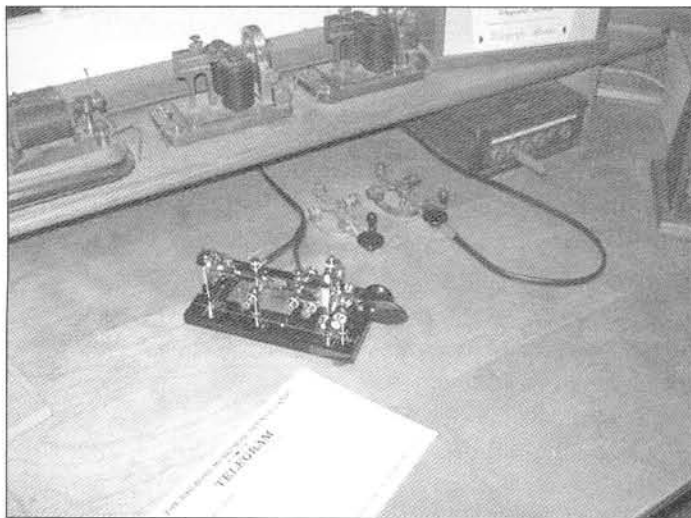
Until then, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

On a personal note, I would like to thank those who voted for me in the last QCWA election, and wish the new QCWA Board the very best as they guide us during the next two years.

**Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO**

## **Chapter 165, York County (PA)**

The regular bi-monthly meeting of Chapter 165 was held September 12, 2006 at the Hoss's Family Restaurant in West York, PA. There were 9 members and guests in attendance. After the luncheon a short business meeting was held. The after lunch discussion was a continuation of our look back at some of the early projects that were built by the members. This month Ray Shaub brought his first 6 meter AM transmitter from about 1957. The business meeting was conducted by our Secretary/ Treasurer due to the absence of our President Chip Morgan, N3IW, who was participating in an open house at the Pennsylvania Railroad Museum.



*The operating position. The bug in the foreground is a 100th Anniversary Vibroplex bug with a wedge connector.*



*Chip, N3IW, in costume at the operating position.*

As reported in the Fall issue of THE QCWA JOURNAL, Chip has been engaged in the work of restoring audio tapes of ancient railroad telegraphers. Additionally, he has volunteered to help with the display of a replica of a 19 century railroad station including the operating position of the telegrapher.

In the photos, the first is a picture of the operating position. The bug in the foreground is a 100th Anniversary Vibroplex bug with a wedge connector. Except for the shorting bar, it looks just like a circa 1914 bug which really fits right in with the replica of a 1915 station.

In the second photo we see Chip, N3IW, in costume at the operating position. Chip says the display gets a lot of positive comments from people visiting the railroad museum.

**Ray Shaub W3AXC Secretary/ Treasurer**

## Chapter 169, Sacramento Valley (CA)

Chapter 169 meets monthly, on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at Carrows Restaurant located at 2800 J Street in Sacramento, CA. The Restaurant is in the downtown area west of the Interstate 80 Freeway. There is plenty of adjacent parking.

In the last quarter the following service awards were presented:

Marion Henson, W6NKR	70 years
Gary Stilwell, KI6T	55 years
Bob Baker, WA6MCT	50 years

We try to have a speaker for each of our monthly meetings. The last quarter featured:

- A video about the "History of Howard Hughes".
- A talk about a book titled "American Labor and the Cold War".
- A talk about his younger days in Amateur Radio by Jim Jolly, W6RWI.
- A talk by Gary Stilwell, KI6T, on the operation of the 6th District ARRL QSL Bureau.
- A talk by Bill King, W7MCC, about a cruise he took many years ago with Paul Wolf, W6RLP.

Our change of meeting location has been working well. So come and join us at 9 AM. Troops start gathering

at 8 AM for the no-host breakfast. YIs are always welcome. For further information, please contact our President, Paul Wolf, W6RLP, at (916) 489-8112.

**Gary Stilwell, KI6T, Secretary/Treasurer**

## Chapter 175, Oregon Coast (OR)

Cooler temperatures, after an absolutely awesome Fall, have returned, to the Oregon Coast and snow has fallen in the Cascade Mountains, both reminding us that Winter has returned to the Pacific Northwest. The Oregon Coast Chapter meets every other month at the Surfrider Resort, just north of Depot Bay, usually on the last Saturday of the month for an afternoon luncheon. Please plan to join us should you be in the area. We have a grand time, a delicious meal and an awesome ocean view in an informal atmosphere. Guests are always welcome.

As a leadership team we have begun to include a short member biography each month so that all QCWA members can get to know us a little bit better. Next up is Don Margeson, W7DS, who is currently the Secretary/Treasurer of our Chapter. Don was introduced to ham radio by his father and received his novice license in 1966 when he was active in his high school radio club. At the time, his family lived in northern New Jersey and to this day, he vividly remembers getting lost in New York City while trying to locate the FCC regional office to take his general examination. You can ask him about the details of this story. A retired engineer and management executive from the paper industry, Don relocated from Connecticut to the Sandlake area of Tillamook County in June of 2003. An extra class licensee, Don is active in the area as a VE for the Lincoln City A.R.C., Tillamook County Emergency Amateur Radio Services and Lincoln County RACES. He is an avid backpacker and hiker, enjoys the beach and recently reached the summit of Mt. Whitney (14491 ft) with his Boy Scout Troop as part of an annual high adventure trek. Don is married and has three children.

Bernie Coler, KC7CP, was first licensed in 1940, went through a period of inactivity while he joined the Navy, and pursued his BS Degree in electrical engineering, his MS Degree in engineering economics at New York University and his MBA from Harvard. He renewed his license in 1965 and spent most of his working career with Hewlett Packard in the Los Angeles County area. Bernie has traveled extensively and is very happy to be retired and living in Oregon. Retired yes, but he quickly points out, not inactive! Bernie volunteers a considerable amount of his time as a communications officer for the United



Happy Birthday #88 to John Johnson, W6AAQ, (R) and Paul Wolf, W6RLP (L); July 12, 2006.



QCWA Awards (L-R): Bob Maker, WA6MCT, 50-years; Marion Henson, 70-years; Gary Stilwell, KI6T, 55-years; Paul Wolf, W6RLP, Chapter 169 President.

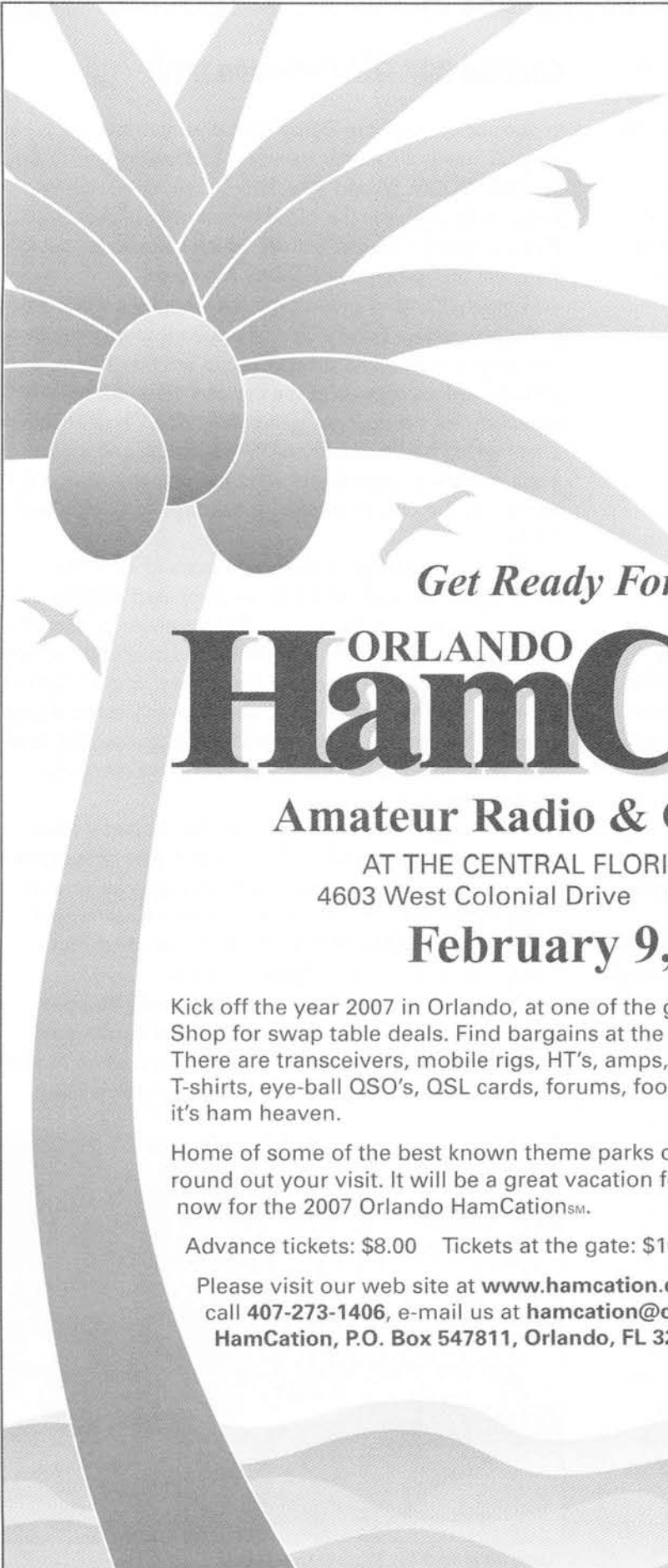
(continued on page 40)



# New Members

# Winter 2006

Date	Mem. #	Name	Call	City	ST/PR	SPONSOR	SCALL
7/5/2006	33564	EVANGELATOS, TIM	VE3MY	KANATA	ON	DOUG LEACH	VE3XK
7/5/2006	33565	SANDERS, DONALD J, JR	K5MIKE	SHREVEPORT	LA	ROGER P LEY	WA9PZL
7/7/2006	33566	MOORE, CHESTER W	WA3VKG	SANDY SPRING	MD	JOHN B JOHNSTON	W3BE
7/7/2006	33567	SMITH, WAYNE L	KV5WS	PFLUGERVILLE	TX	-	-
7/11/2006	33568	CHESTER, CHARLES	W8INI	HENDERSONVILLE	NC	DUKE KNIEF	W4DK
7/11/2006	33569	STICHICK, DON	W3HLM	E SPRINGFIELD	PA	CYNTHIA RUSHTON	WB3CNJ
7/13/2006	33570	FINKE, MANFRED	DL2BWG	NEUENHAGEN	GY	-	-
7/13/2006	33571	CLARK, ROLAN O	W3FDK	ADAMSTOWN	MD	-	-
7/13/2006	33572	PLOWMAN, JOHN DAVID	W4PBU	TAMPA	FL	CROFT TAYLOR	VE3CT
7/14/2006	33573	SLYE, WILLIAM R, JR	N3GT	MILLERSVILLE	MD	LESUE T JAMISON, JR	WR3X
7/14/2006	33574	VESCOIO, LOUIS P	W8LPV	SAGINAW	MI	ED IRELAND	W8HZF
7/17/2006	33575	SHUTT, KENNETH G	W5KQ	BATON ROUGE	LA	WAYNE GORDON	K5EOA
7/17/2006	33576	SEABORN, WILLIAM C	N9ASC	SOUTH ELGIN	IL	DAVE WHALEY	NT9E
7/17/2006	33577	HOPWOOD, JEFFREY M	N8CBA	ST JOSEPH	MI	-	-
7/17/2006	33578	SPANGLER, DAVID T	K4DTS	YORKTOWN	VA	-	-
7/18/2006	33579	MALINOWSKI, JOSEPH S	K1EEB	SANBORNTON	NH	-	-
7/18/2006	33580	MARUNA, FRANK A	W6RDY	CHINO VALLEY	AZ	LYLE BROWN	W7LGB
7/18/2006	33581	KEMP, PAUL C, III	WB0CJB	HUNTINGTON	IN	-	-
7/21/2006	33582	REKUS, JOHN F	WA3KBN	TOWSON	MD	-	-
7/25/2006	33583	LIPPMAN, CARL E	WH6ANH	AURORA	CO	-	-
7/25/2006	33584	BOURKE, KEN	N6UN	SAN DIEGO	CA	-	-
7/25/2006	33585	TAMULONIS, LEONARD	KB1NSH	RICHFORD	VT	-	-
7/25/2006	33586	GUYS, HAL	NX5A	MOORE	OK	SKIP AMIS	N5CFM
7/25/2006	33587	CARL, TOM	WD0TC	ARLINGTON	TX	GENE NAILON	K5PLE
7/26/2006	33588	SKAGGS, GARY	WB5ULK	NORMAN	OK	SKIP AMIS	N5CFM
7/26/2006	33589	LOVEGROVE, MICHAEL	N50KU	NOBLE	OK	GENE NAILON	K5DLE
7/26/2006	33590	WOLKEN, GEORGE C	K4GHC	NOBLE	OK	SKIP AMIS	N5CFM
7/26/2006	33591	COOLEY, CLIFFORD R	N5CSJ	BLANCHARD	OK	SKIP AMIS	N5CFN
7/26/2006	33592	JOHN, ANDREW C	W8OU	GUTHRIE	OK	SKIP AMIS	N5CFM
7/26/2006	33593	WYATT, BILL	N5WO	WOODWARD	OK	VIRGIL TIPTON	K5DYA
7/26/2006	33594	UECKE, DONALD R	WA9ERI	MILWAUKEE	WI	-	-
7/27/2006	33595	LOVEGROVE, JACK	K5LOV	OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	GENE NAILON	K5DLE
7/28/2006	33596	GILLASPY, SEAN	N5ETR	GRANBURY	TX	-	-
7/31/2006	33597	HAYES, RONALD DAVID	VE3JX	SAULT STE MARIE	ON	JAMES F BISHOP	W8JFB
7/31/2006	33598	OPENLANDER, WAYNE	W9NZB	CHICAGO	IL	JOSEPH J SCHROEDER, JR	W9JUV
8/1/2006	33599	GOODWIN, DAVE	V01AU	OTTAWA	ON	DOUG LEACH	VE3XK
8/3/2006	33600	SHETLER, FRED C	K3VMS	PORT ROYAL	PA	WALT SUPINA	N3WS
8/8/2006	33601	RIVETT, ARNOLD MAC LEAN	VE6CN	CALGARY	AB	KEN OELKE	VE6AFO
8/10/2006	33602	GAMMETER, ERIC L	N8AAY	NEW MARKET	MD	-	-
8/10/2006	33603	BORSARI, GEORGE R, JR	W4WRS	GLEN ECHO	MD	JOHN B JOHNSTON	W3BE
8/11/2006	33604	ERID, CRAYON C	K14OTI	DULLES	VA	CHUCK WALBRIDGE	K1IGD
8/11/2006	33605	PIEDFORT, ROBERT DALE	K87UB	MENA	AR	ROBERT D NOVAK	K0OK
8/11/2006	33606	ONIFER, JAMES G	KJ7KR	BENSON	AZ	-	-
8/11/2006	33607	THOMPSON, DUANE S	K86CC	CENTENNIAL	CO	-	-
8/15/2006	33608	LOMAS, CHARLES	N3AAV	KLAMATH FALLS	OR	CAROLYN BROOKS	AB7ET
8/15/2006	33609	SPEARS, JOSEPH G	AF1E	CONOVER	NC	-	-
8/15/2006	33610	SMITH, JOHN E	W4HDW	VIRGINIA BEACH	VA	VIC CULVER	W4VIC
8/15/2006	33611	JACKSON, JAMES L	KD2FN	SMITHFIELD	VA	VIC CULVER	W4VIC
8/16/2006	33612	FRAZER, EDWARD J	VE7EF	WEST VANCOUVER	BC	KEN OELKE	VE6AFO
8/18/2006	33613	PETRI, T GLENN	WA4CSH	FISHERVILLE	KY	M TINKER	AA8P
8/18/2006	33614	PORTER, GEORGE R	W8PIK	GLENNE	MI	-	-
8/21/2006	33615	BLEVINS, ROGER D	N24L	ARGILLITE	KY	MATT TINKER	AA8P
8/21/2006	33616	DE SANTIS, CHARLES H	K8CR	WEST CHESTER	OH	MATT TINKER	AA8P
8/21/2006	33617	WHITE, DERYL E, JR	W4CKP	MIDLOTHIAN	VA	-	-
8/21/2006	33618	CUTTING, DAVID R	K1YUK	BARRE	MA	-	-
8/23/2006	33619	MC DOWELL, W SCOTT	N5SM	AMARILLO	TX	-	-
8/24/2006	33620	OWEN, JAMES C, III	K4CGY	MOUNT AIRY	MD	ERIC GAMMETER	N8AAY
8/24/2006	33621	KREUZER, JAMES	N2GHD	GRAND ISLAND	NY	JOHN B JOHNSTON	W3BE
8/28/2006	33622	CURLING, GORD	VE3KKL	RR1 KARS	ON	DOUG LEACH	VE3XK
8/28/2006	33623	KING, BEVERLY A	KC7FHX	LANGLOIS	OR	RON OLIVER	W7VU
8/28/2006	33624	SHEPHERD, KIERAN	VA3KS	CARP	ON	DOUG LEACH	VE3XK
8/28/2006	33625	FITTON, JIM	W1FMR	SALEM	NH	BOB WALLACE	W1HH
8/28/2006	33626	MARTIN, JAMES J, JR	W6ZF	DRACUT	MA	BOB WALLACE	W1HH
8/28/2006	33627	LUX, PATRICIA	WB1EOS	CROMWELL	CT	BOB R SMITH	KK3P
8/28/2006	33628	HERBERT, GARY L	N1VFU	CLAREMONT	NH	JOHN B JOHNSTON	W3BE
8/28/2006	33629	OLSSON, THOMAS K	W1TKO	W GREENWICH	CT	BOB R SMITH	KK3P
8/28/2006	33630	GRANT, EMERSON W	WA1ONI	LEOMINSTER	MA	-	-
8/28/2006	33631	SZEWCHYK, BRIAN J	NJ1F	SARATOGA SPRINGS	NY	BOB R SMITH	KK3P
8/28/2006	33632	JOHNSON, KEVIN L	KJ1I	MILFORD	NH	JOHN B JOHNSTON	W3BE
8/29/2006	33633	DEL GROSSO, DARRYL L	WA1DD	WATERFORD	CT	-	-
8/29/2006	33634	LLOYD, JERRY	WA1TCA	WATERBURY	CT	-	-
8/29/2006	33635	WALKER, CARL	WA1RAJ	WILTON	NH	-	-
8/29/2006	33636	SILVIA, RON	WB1HGA	FALL RIVER	MA	-	-
8/29/2006	33637	REISER, ROBERT C	AA1M	BURLINGTON	MA	-	-
8/29/2006	33638	EASTMAN, RICHARD W	K1QJH	NORTHBOROUGH	MA	BOB WALLACE	W1HH
8/29/2006	33639	LEMPKE, STEVEN E	WA1MZL	SOMERSET	MA	-	-
8/29/2006	33640	PRICE, EMMETT F, JR	K3EP	STAFFORD	VA	-	-
8/29/2006	33641	FERRON, JAYSON T	N4GAA	W HAVEN	CT	BOB R SMITH	KK3P
8/29/2006	33642	ARCHER, JAMES A	W1EOZ	QUAKER HILL	CT	JAMES CULLEY	K1LBE
8/29/2006	33643	BLACK, BYRON	W4SSY	VIENNA	VA	RAY JOHNSON	K5RJ
8/31/2006	33644	WILEY, JIM	W6TJU	DENVER	CO	JAMES R BLECHA	W9KRE
9/23/2006	33645	GUSS, JOHN T	N3GU	BAOLSBURG	PA	-	-
9/26/2006	33646	PRISTER, DONALD	KA0JLF	PRAIRIE VILLAGE	KS	ALVIN WIECHMAN	W0ME
9/26/2006	33647	CREITZ, STANLEY	WA0CCW	BELOIT	KS	ALVIN WIECHMAN	W0ME
9/26/2006	33648	COOPER, RON L	K8NSG	BRYAN	ON	-	-
9/26/2006	33649	LAZAR, DENNIS	K4KLQ	PORT CHARLOTTE	FL	-	-
9/28/2006	33650	KRAY, JOHN F	KA2CNG	VESTAL	NY	WILLIAM THOMPSON	W2MTA

- 
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*Get Ready For The 2007*

# ORLANDO **HamCation**<sup>SM</sup>

## **Amateur Radio & Computer Show**

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### **February 9, 10 & 11**

Kick off the year 2007 in Orlando, at one of the great hamfests. See the latest equipment. Shop for swap table deals. Find bargains at the largest tail-gating area in the Southeast. There are transceivers, mobile rigs, HT's, amps, antennas, call-letter hats, wire, parts, T-shirts, eye-ball QSO's, QSL cards, forums, food, computers, sun and fun. You'll think it's ham heaven.

Home of some of the best known theme parks on earth, Orlando has all you need to round out your visit. It will be a great vacation for you and the family. Make your plans now for the 2007 Orlando HamCation<sup>SM</sup>.

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HamCation, P.O. Box 547811, Orlando, FL 32854-7811



States Coast Guard Station at Depot Bay and believes in giving back to the community. He is an extra class licensee, member of the Lincoln County RACES, and a Volunteer Examiner for the Lincoln County Amateur Radio Club. Bernie enjoys working on antenna design and construction. He has some experience with the very early stages of moon bounce communication while doing some "projects" with the military. He has a personal connection to the U.S.S. Arizona and a lost at sea experience that are both unique stories that everyone in the Chapter should be sure and ask him about.

**Carl Samdahl, W7LI, Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Chapter 188, Lost River (OR)**

Our Chapter meets each month on the third Thursday at Sam's Restaurant at 11:30AM here in Klamath Falls, Oregon. We would welcome any and all visitors, if you are in our area.

Our Chapter has an annual picnic, and this year it was held at the beautiful home of Phil Rand, W7BW, and his wife Judy. Weather was nice and the food was wonderful and abundant. It had been planned to have it outside, but the minute the food was taken outside, the bees and wasps showed up in large numbers, so we ate inside, and later had a good old gabfest. A very good time was had by all.

Recently, we had an election for a new Secretary, Don Quick, K7TDX, and Don Nichols, W7IEO, remained as Treasurer. Carolyn Brooks, AB7ET, remained as President.

We are fortunate enough to be geographically situated to take part in the local net conducted by Beaver State QCWA Chapter 108 each Wednesday at 8 AM local time on 3926. Net controls vary at times.

Sadly, I report the passing of Ron Spears, W7IX, recently. He was 44 years old and died while trying to dismantle a very high tower with a large beam on top. The beam collapsed and hit a guy wire and the whole thing came down at once, knocking Ron to the ground. We all miss his big smile and quiet friendliness. Also we lost the wife of one of our members, Belva Klein, wife of John Klein, WA7VNS. She always attended our meetings and was ready to help anyone with anything.

Klamath Falls is located about 20 miles north of the California border, and is about 4500 feet altitude, so we have desert weather, cool nights and warm or hot days, but soon will come Old Man Winter and snow and slick roads, so we enjoy getting together when we can and certainly understand when we can't.

**Carolyn Brooks, AB7ET, President**

## **Chapter 202 Old Dominion (VA)**

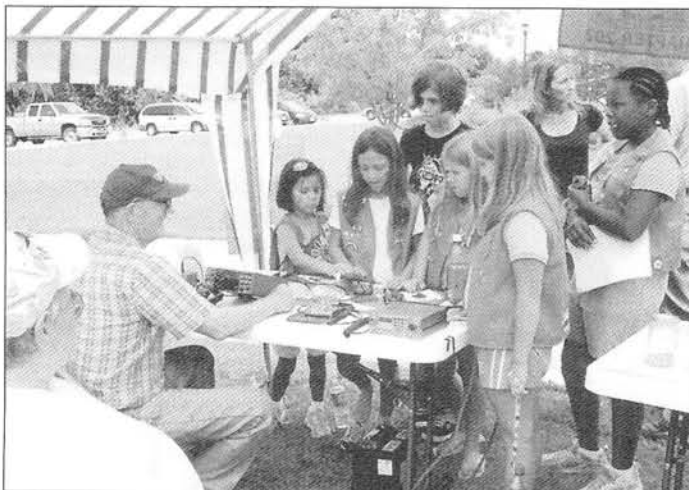
In conjunction with the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia, several Chapter members operated the club station WW2DDM (World War Two D-Day Memorial) on June 6th to celebrate the 62nd anniversary of that event. This is a yearly Chapter activity which helps to perpetuate the event and promote the D-Day Memorial.

On July 22nd, a group from the Chapter participated in the Memorial's Family Day where various organizations - military, patriotic and others - set up on the grounds and provide various aspects of the life and times during WWII, especially for the younger generation. The Chapter set up a tent which had a display of WWII radios and equipment; a working station (not vintage); amateur radio information; and a chance to send a message to friends and family.

The youngsters got a chance to learn to send their name in Morse code, and then were offered a chance to send a message - either a stock ARRL number or one of their own - to anyone they wished. An explanation of how the message would be handled was given and compared to similar situations during the war. A twenty-meter dipole at seven feet (no tall trees available) did sparse duty and was replaced by a two-meter link where the messages went on their way.

On August 12th, Bill Perkins, KC4D, hosted a family picnic/meeting at his QTH. There was a tour of the antenna farm and shack with operating privileges for anyone who desired. Several hams from the area were invited and good fellowship and conversation was had and "seeds" were planted for future members.

During the meeting Glen, W4GHS, ARRL Virginia Section Manager, spoke to the group and encouraged everyone to use our extensive years of experience to seek out, aid and encourage new hams to help solve their



*Having fun at the D-Day Memorial Family picnic.*



problems and encourage activity. Especially singled out were the new Techs, who are primarily repeater users, to help them with correct procedures and encourage and help with their upgrades.

Buddy, W4YE, announced that the W5KL Scholarship, in honor of his father, was presented to a YL in Missouri who is planning on attending MIT this Fall.

Bill, KC4D, was applauded for being such a fine host was invited to do again when he felt recovered from this undertaking.

**Bill Svec, WA4BKW Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Chapter 212, Central Ohio (OH)**

Chapter 212 President Fritz Tender, WD8E, opened the meeting September 26, 2006 at 6:00 PM after a Summer recess. The meeting was held at Donato's Restaurant on Brice Road in Columbus, Ohio.

After the pizza, the conversation covered a wide range of topics. Despite poor propagation, members participated in Field Day, a Special Event Station, and numerous contests. The American Radio Relay League's Logbook of the World being was one of the prime topics of discussion. Who said you cannot teach old dogs new tricks? Most members' logs are paperless and are on the Lotw. John Tipka, W8UL, has over 30,000 "Q's" posted to Lotw. John, W8UL, also related some of his driving experiences since being appointed District Emergency Coordinator for the ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Phil Carter, WD8QWR, is checking his retirement options. Bob Cashdollar, NR8U, participated in the Spring 2006 QCWA QSO party on Phone while Fritz, WD8E, represented "212" in the fall QSO party on Phone. Dave Shwertfager, N8EFB, our Webmaster, is teaching classes in the evening for The Ohio State University. Fritz and Bob attended the QCWA dinner at Dayton this year.

Chapter 212 holds a monthly on-air meeting the third Thursday of every month on the Columbus area 145.760/- repeater at 8:30 p.m.

Chapter in-person meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month.

Please check our website at [www.qcwa.org/qcwa212](http://www.qcwa.org/qcwa212) for further club information, news, and our future meeting dates and locations.

**Bob Cashdollar, NR8U, Secretary**

## **Chapter 213, Fresno (CA)**

WQ6CWA and K6LFR were active in the QCWA Spring QSO Party. WQ6CWA placed 9th in the phone category.

We lost our member John Stewart, KE6DK, after a series of illnesses. The Chapter had a table at the 64th Fresno Hamfest where we sold caps and decals. We gave out several applications for QCWA membership. Our Chapter continues monthly meetings with good attendance. Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, Charles McConnell, W6DPD, was listed in the 2006-2007 edition of Who's Who in Science and Engineering. Chapter President, Mike Bavoso, W6YDE, has DXCC.

**Charles McConnell, W6DPD, Secretary/ Treasurer**

## **ODE TO QCWA**

A quarter century is not too long  
When fun and friends abound  
When on the bands we're sure to hear  
Hey, I'm on the air, is anyone around?

Remember when you first got on the air  
And the old rig tuned on high  
With breath held back it was a fact  
A new age for you was nigh.

The dits and dahs were slow to come  
And your eager fist soon became smart  
With pencil in hand, expectations grand  
You were more than ready to start

Signals faint were your complaint  
As line noise began to rise  
More RF gain and filters strain  
To bring QRM down to size

When looking back to that old shack  
And memories spring to mind  
Hand-wound coils and caps with oils  
And tubes that were hard to find.

Now that I've made my twenty-five  
While gathering friends along the bands  
It's time to enjoy my time alive  
While the hourglass drips its sands

It's nice to know I'm one of those  
That stayed faithful day by day  
To enjoy my rig and those I call close  
I've finally joined the QCWA

-nfc-

# Amateur Radio Stamps?

By Robert Cashdollar, NR8U

## 1260 Amateur Radio

After you have been in Amateur Radio a while, you soon discover what a wide-open field of interest the hobby presents. There is chasing DX, ragchewing on the bands, 2-meter fm, and a host of other on air activities. Other activities include joining national organizations like the American Radio Relay League, and of course the Quarter Century Wireless Association when you're eligible, down to the local clubs in your area.

Another area of interest, for me, was and is reading about the history of Radio and the early days of Amateur Radio. As a newly minted "tech" I started to haunt the local library for books on the pioneers of radio. During the course of all this reading, I came across the fact a stamp had been issued by the United States Post Office honoring Amateur Radio. I filed this information away and continued on with my reading and working on my upgrades.

After a few years and as many visits to the FCC and one final visit with the then new volunteer examiner program I made it to the top of the tree, so to speak. In the following years my Amateur Radio experiences ran the gamut from chasing DX, managing the letter O for the Eight Area Incoming QSL Bureau, to serving as Emergency Coordinator for my local ARES group. All in all, a very rewarding experience and a lot of fun, most of the time!

As with all hobbies, sometimes after a while, your interests can sometimes lag. It happened to me and I sort of sat back and looked around and took stock of just what I had been interested in with Amateur Radio. My early interests in radio history came back to me and with it the fact about an Amateur Radio stamp.

Back to the library I went and started looking up books on Stamp Collecting. One of the first things I discovered was how similar the hobby of Stamp Collecting is to Amateur Radio. There is a national organization; the American Philatelic Society, local clubs, and even stamp shows, which are almost identical in nature to hamfests. I suppose if you dug deeply into other hobbies, you would find almost the same structure.

I soon discovered Stamp Collecting was as varied as Amateur Radio. In stamp collecting, there are various sub-groups like ham radio. People collect and study postmarks, stamp design, the history of stamps, and a host of other variations. For my purpose, I zeroed in on a sub-group called Topicals. This category is broken down further into things like transportation on stamps, people on stamps, events on stamps, and a myriad of other items. The Amateur Radio stamp falls under this category.

Just like all hobbies, Stamp collecting has its buzzwords and definitions. A stamp can be collected as a single stamp, a block of four, or a full sheet of stamps. Any or all combinations of a single issue are collected.

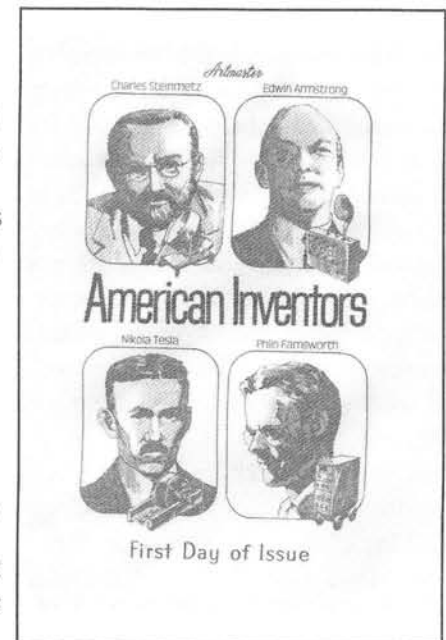
When a stamp has its first day of issue the Post Office usually holds a program at a local Post Office which has some connection to the stamp being issued. Local dignitaries and

***"I started to haunt the local library for books on the pioneers of radio. During the course of all this reading, I came across the fact a stamp had been issued by the United States Post Office honoring Amateur Radio."***

anyone who has a connection with the stamp being issued are invited to the local ceremony. A program is usually provided detailing various things about the stamp such as who designed the stamp, what process was used to print the stamp, and what the stamp is meant to commemorate. The program also has an example of the stamp, which has been canceled by the local Post Office. Naturally these are called First Day Ceremony programs and are highly collectable

The Amateur Radio stamp had its first day of issue in Anchorage, Alaska on December 15, 1964. The reason for this selection appears to be due to Mother Nature causing an earthquake in Alaska the previous March of 1964. Hams rose to the occasion and provided much needed communication to the outside world after the quake. So when the Amateur Radio stamp was issued, Anchorage was selected to honor the Hams and their contribution to the recovery effort after the earthquake.

According to the official program, the site of the first day ceremony was the Anchorage-Westward hotel and held at 12:00 Noon. The host for the program was the Rotary Club of Anchorage. The Mayor of Anchorage, E.E. Rasmusson led the local delegation at the presentation. The Postmaster of Anchorage, Tony Schwamm along with Jay .B. Christensen, Assistant to Regional Director Post Office Department were



also in attendance. Chief United States Postal Inspector Henry B. Montague gave the address and presentation at the ceremony. Amateurs present were: Leo E. Olendorff, KL7CAH, President of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club; Robert M. Booth, Jr. W3PS, Representing Herbert Hoover, Jr., President of the American Radio Relay League; LeRoy J. Davis, KL7CUK; John Carter, KL7DRW.

There was also some controversy about the Stamp at the time of its issue. Political controversy reared its ugly head because of Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA. Goldwater was the Republican candidate for President in November of 1964. Apparently there was some feeling in the Democratic administration of the time that Goldwater could use the Amateur Radio stamp for political advantage. This might have had something to do with the Stamp being released in December of 1964.

The Stamp's year of issue was also the 50th anniversary of The American Radio Relay League. It seems some hams felt the stamp should honor Amateur Radio as a whole rather than just the ARRL. From my reading, it appears the League had a



great deal to do with the lobbying of the Post Office to create an Amateur Radio Stamp. From what I can determine it took several years of lobbying the Post Office by the ARRL before the Post Office agreed to a stamp. That it was issued during the League's 50th anniversary was probably due to the League's efforts in lobbying for an Amateur Radio stamp.

In my reading, I also discovered an area of stamp collecting called First Day Covers. An FDC is an envelope, usually four by six inches with a design on the left side of the cover relating to the stamp being issued. The design on the cover is called a Cachet, pronounced ka-shay. This envelope has the stamp affixed by the person submitting the cover(s) to the designated first day post office. It is cancelled by the post office of the city in which the stamp first goes on sale, hence a first day cover.

First Day Covers range from mass-produced covers from companies like ArtCraft and Fleetwood down to individuals who produce just a few covers for their own use and maybe to sell or trade with other cachet makers. The covers, which are mass-produced, are not very expensive while the small cachet makers' covers can command premium prices. Modern



first day covers; starting with covers from about the early 1950's or so, are always collected without an address on them. Addressed covers after the '50's are usually not highly valued by collectors. When I first started to collect the Amateur Radio stamp covers I bought addressed covers and later replaced them with unaddressed ones. It was a cheap way to start a collection.

I started my collection in what might be called reverse order. The usual way collections are

started is by collecting a topic first. Radio should have been my first general topic and then later Amateur Radio, but at first I was only interested in the Amateur Radio stamp and FDC's. Later, after I had filled quite a few first day cover albums, I became interested in other stamps and fdc's which had a connection to radio.

I now have stamps and covers on F. B. Morse (cw), G. Marconi (early radio), electronics, and other countries stamps and fdc's issued to honor local ham groups or national Amateur Radio organizations. The Morse, Marconi, and electronics stamps and covers are not too difficult to find at stamp shows or stamp dealers. The hard part comes with the Amateur Radio stamps and covers of other countries. Having chased DX over the years, I at least had some experience using the mails to foreign countries!

I'm often asked, "It must be expensive to collect stamps and first day covers" or "your collection must be valuable now." The answer to the first is "not really." If you buy stamps from a reputable stamp dealer and go to stamp shows on a regular basis, you can accumulate a nice collection at reasonable prices. If you check prices in the various publications listed in the additional information section, you can get an idea of the current prices for stamps and covers. After all, you wouldn't buy a new radio without checking out the dealer prices first.

Having collected for over about 15 years, I suppose the value of my total collection, "for insurance purposes" as they say on Antiques Roadshow might range in the 5-600 dollar range. My dream of retiring to that dx hotspot on the beaches of Tahiti will have to wait a while longer!

My main interest is still Amateur Radio. Collecting Amateur Radio stamps and covers can be a nice addition to an already great hobby. When the bands are closed and the Sun has banked the fire in its solar furnace, I pull out my stamps and fdc's and examine them all over again. ■

NOTE: The Scott Stamp Catalog uses the designation "1260" for the Amateur radio stamp.





*Sena Dixon*

Going through old stuff often leads to surprise findings. So when Sena Dixon sorted out belongings of one of her sisters who had recently passed away she found the framed picture with her dad in the center of it.

For me it started with an e-mail, forwarded to me by QCWA President John Johnston, W3BE, with the dry comment "Gerd, here is an offer you can't refuse!"

"I am the daughter of Willis "Bill" Hinman. I remember my father being very active in QCWA when I was growing up. He passed away in 1978, however, my sister just recently passed and I have run across a framed, group picture with the caption "Quarter Century Wireless Association" Peerless Mill Inn- Oct 13, 1966. This would have been the Dayton Chapter. I was wondering if anyone in your organization might be interested in having this photo." said the e-mail.

Several e-mails later my wife looking over my shoulder commented "We do know this lady, she is with the Dayton Theater Guild and one time stopped by the house and brought back my glasses that I had lost there." Sena had been a long time volunteer for the Theater Guild in ticket sales and other endeavors and she also remembered our name.

So Sena stopped by the house to bring the picture. We had a nice chat, she mentioned that her dad coined the word "Hamvention" but the sister, who also became a ham and now lives in Detroit probably would know

# The **TIME** capsule

by Gerd Schrick, WB8IFM

more about her dad. I mentioned that I had met her dad early on, after I had gotten my reciprocal license and had made contact with some hams of Dayton's sister city Augsburg which was in 1968. Bill, W8UX, got me connected with the Dayton Radio Club. I could not join the QCWA, I had only 17 years in at the time. Sena mentioned her dad had a black QSL card, so I got my box out labeled "Local Hams" and took a look and just about when I was about to give up to flip through the large stack of unsorted cards, did we find two cards one marked with the day we first met and one with his Texas address where he retired to and marked with the day he became a silent key which was on 12-15-1978. Since his wife Marian also became a ham, her call WA8HWL was also part of the QSL. The Hamvention had a prominent mention on the card, supporting Sena's comment that he came up with the term.

Looking at the 1966 picture, I only recognized a few faces; of course, Sena could identify her dad, who was right in the center. Now the problem was to possibly identify the others. Not an easy task. The black and white photo was of excellent quality, done by a professional photographer. Immediately obvious is the fact that everybody is nicely dressed in suit shirt and tie. Although they probably knew a picture was going to be taken, dressing like that at the time was quite common. Compare this to today's lax style of attire.

Going through my box with old documents I came across a 1988 article: Dayton-Cincinnati Chapter Quarter Century Wireless Association or A Brief History of Chapter Nine. It mentioned all the charter members of the club, that it was founded in 1957, ten years after QCWA was formed and it had a list of all the past presidents. I am almost certain this write-

up (dated 28 Feb 1988) by a committee of four: William G. Biddle, K8UZ; Carl J. Yeager, W8DWT; Robert L. Mawdsley, N8FTT; and Ralph E. Patterson, K8MHU was submitted to the journal and might be found checking the journals later that year.

Bob Roske, N0UF, our Webmaster also was informed about the picture and immediately indicated his interest to add it to his "historical website". So we needed to scan it for that purpose, and for that I had to take the picture out of the frame.

The next morning I carefully removed the nails that held down the back cardboard, removed the cardboard and peeled off the picture, low and behold, it was a photo of an airplane. I pulled away the next sheet, what did I get: the photo of a boat, a large freighter. How many more pictures were there? Well, there was another photo of a platoon of marching air force ladies and then "surprise" two more QCWA group Photos from 1962 and 1964. Then finally I held the 1966 group photo in my hand. I also noticed a piece of paper that had fallen out containing a complete listing of all the hams in the 1966 picture.

Steve, K8UD, did the scanning; he is quite proficient in that having done a lot before for the Dayton club and otherwise! Most hams in the photo had these courtesy stick-on nametags, which we could read by locally looking and enlarging the area. These were professional B+W photographs.

On page 45 you see a copy of the photo with inscription and complete list of the individual hams. Assuming everybody in this picture had at least 25 years of "hamming" in, that would be 64 years by now, so most likely they are all silent keys. The only thing remaining to this day is the



QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION  
PEERLESS MILL INN — OCT. 13, 1966

### **Dayton-Cincinnati Chapter QCWA 13 October 1966 Meeting**

Front row (on the floor) left to right: W8FXR, Norden Daubenbis; W8FJC, Ralph Bruce; W8ALW, Elmer Schubert; W8UU, Ken Houston; W8BLZ, B.J. Rockwell; W8TE, Andy Shafer.

Second row (seated) left to right: W8NCV, Carl Dettmer; W8WC, Al Michel; W8WYL, Andy Henderson; W8ACE, John Willig; W8UX, Bill Hinman; W8TH, Paul Wiegert; W8IIP, Joe Semco; W8LOF, Doc Hildebrand; W8BHT, Leo Gibbs;

Third row, (standing) left to right: W8RJ, Nelson Lewis; K8UZ, Bill Biddle; W8SUK, John Slade; W8TPC, Russ Gardner; W8ENH, Clem Wolford; ex W8WQN, R.W. Bullis; W8FYR, Doc Self; W8TYL, Walt Wehner; W8CPX, Hal Reese; K3YZN, John Denham; W8CUF, Frank Kouri.

Back Row, left to right: W8ACT, Joe Whiting; W8DHJ, Dave Marquette; W8BFB, Bob Wettengel; K8HAX, Randall McFarland; W8QDI, Robert Siff; W8MPJ, Dick Lauth; W8GYJ, George Wilson; W8JDV, Jack Gray; W8DWT, Carl Yeager; W8TYI, LeRoy Brown; W8SK, John Coleman.

banner, which is exactly as you see it in the picture. Carey Alexander, K8DOT, brings it to all our meetings! Also you see a picture of Sena, very pretty and colorful, which, of course, doesn't show in the B+W.

If you wondered about the other pictures: the airplane was a Convair 880, it said so on the tail, which was a four engine jetliner, meant as competition to Boeings 707 and Douglas's DC8. But only 65 were built between 58 and 65.

The ship was the Great Lakes freighter Joseph H Frantz (this name visible in the picture) with a very interesting history as I learned from the Internet: Built in 1924 and outfitted with an 2500 ihp triple expansion engine to haul 14,000 tons of ore it was spared from the scrap yard in 1955 was modernized and outfitted with a 5,323 hp Skinner Uniflow steam engine. This engine was again replaced in 1965 with a GM 4000 bhp diesel. But eventually luck ran out on this old workhorse and in

April of 2005 it was towed to Port Colborn, Ontario for scrapping.

The third picture dated 5-59 shows a group of marching and singing women in white uniforms with dark capes, possibly Airforce. As you see a few people in the back watching this might have been in a parade! ■

ihp = indicated (theoretical) hp  
bhp = brake (measured) hp

## Re-Organization and the Don Miller Affair

*A Journalistic History of The Life and Times in Amateur Radio of George Hart, W1NJM  
by George Hart, W1NJM*

One of the features of the re-organization was the weekly meetings of all branch heads with Ellen and myself, the object being to acquaint everyone with what was going on in all branches of the department. Each branch head would make an oral report and bring up any problems, which would be openly discussed and, if possible, resolved; also, the same applied to recommendations. Every branch head was given his say, and expected to be familiar with what was going on elsewhere in the department. I shared overall department management with Ellen White on an equal basis, except that the ultimate responsibility for decisions was mine alone.

It worked out very well. Ellen and I worked well together, in almost complete harmony, and as the years passed it was practically taken for granted that she would be my successor when it came time for my mandatory retirement. Of course during that 12-year period there were times when my status as communications manager was in sharp question by the Board of Directors and therefore by John Huntoon himself. At the instigation of certain directors incensed with what they called my abrasive methods, twice were Board committees appointed to investigate and report. The first report cleared me completely of any charges. The second one recommended only some minor departmental changes, which we put into effect immediately; they were so minor that I don't remember what they were. However, as a result I was awarded a special certificate by my colleagues called the "Sandpaper Award," inscribed on sandpaper testifying as to my writing of the most abrasive letters. I put this certificate on the wall near my desk where it remained during the last few years of my tenure. I regarded the whole thing as a joke, but to several directors and some of my colleagues it was considered a serious matter. At one time Perry Williams told me that one of my letters to an SCM regarding his expense account was tantamount to calling him either stupid or crooked. I countered that that is precisely what I meant to imply, to which he said that there were ways of saying the same thing without causing offense. I countered that this was true only by taking a chance that the meaning would not be understood, and that if it was understood the recipient would take offense anyway. The arguments went 'round and 'round and little was resolved. Eventually Don Waters, our public relations consultant at the time, was sicced on me, ostensibly to educate me on how to write diplomatic letters. Don was not an amateur licensee, one of those employees mandated by the Board not to be a licensee — a concept I never understood or agreed with. I felt I had no need to be so educated, that I could write as diplomatic a letter as any-

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*"The turnover of personnel during my 12-year stint as communications manager was rapid. At first I was quite naive, assuming that any active ham was eager to work at headquarters without regard for financial considerations - as I was in 1938 and still was to a certain extent in 1967."*

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body and certainly did not need a professional consultant to show me how. In other words, I wasn't ignorant, I was just stubborn and intractable. Don, a man of high intelligence and perspicacity, quickly perceived this and tried to work on me to realize that my methods were inimical to my position. We had many interesting sessions arguing this point, often punctuated with humor. Don was a WWII veteran, like myself, and we had much in common. I chided him with the argument that "public relations" was an unnecessary entity, that if public service was adequate public relations, in the main, would take care of itself, and that PR was often incongruously pushed above PS to the detriment of the objective. He countered that without PR, PS would be all but nonexistent. Of course we never resolved anything but I think he enjoyed the sessions as much as I did and we became quite friendly.

The turnover of personnel during my 12-year stint as communications manager was rapid. At first I was quite naive, assuming that any active ham was eager to work at headquarters without regard for financial considerations - as I was in 1938 and still was to a certain extent in 1967. One of my first problems was to find replacements for two crucial ACM posts: public service and contests, vacated by myself and Ellen White respectively. There were people in the field as eager as I had been, but those most qualified shied away when I disclosed the starting salary. One of the prospects was a lawyer from Kentucky, one of my best SEC's. I offered him close to the maximum salary to start, but he only laughed and said, "Thanks, but I'd rather keep on being a lawyer." I felt like an idiot. His name was George Wilson, W4OYI. He was later elected president of ARRL. Another prospect comes to mind but I can't remember his name or call. He was quite prominent in the field and seemed genuinely interested. He too demanded the maximum salary but stipulated that he



must have his own private secretary. Another applicant who seemed well qualified submitted a lengthy and detailed application but listed his minimum starting salary at \$18,000. The maximum we were offering at that time was \$9,000. I thought of offering the job to Pete Chamalian, despite the fact that Pete had seemed much more interested in contests than in public service, but Pete was already established in another job and not available. We finally succeeded in hiring Bill Mann, a well-known and well qualified ham from Maine. Bill's only stipulation was that he not "have a woman for a boss." I assured him that although Ellen would be in charge of the whole department in my absence, normally I would exercise supervision of the Public Service Branch. Bill did a good job for us and we worked well together. He had nothing against Ellen but appeared to be against women in executive positions. The ERA movement still had a long way to go.

The contest job went to a young man from Michigan named Rick Niswander. Bob White continued to handle DXCC in a highly proficient but somewhat high-handed manner which later caused trouble. I continued my close involvement in NTS but was glad to have Bill available to handle most of the detail work.

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***"Don Miller had become a highly popular figure among DXing hams, and this popularity was reflected among the ARRL directors, many of whom were also ardent DXers, and even those who weren't felt obliged to represent their constituents in this matter."***

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One of my first problems as CM was the "Don Miller affair." Don Miller was a medical doctor, apparently one of wealth, who undertook DXpeditions to remote islands all over the world to give those interested in DX a "new country." The DXCC award had burgeoned far beyond a simple certificate; it had become a veritable continuing contest to see who could gamer the most "countries." No need to go into details at this point (far too complicated and lengthy). Don Miller would show up, purportedly in some remote location, get a rig on the air and start making contacts with all the eager DXCCers all over the world, then confirm the contacts with QSL cards. Followed a demand on the part of those vying for DXCC credit that the location be recognized as a "country" by the ARRL administration and "Honor Roll" credit be given to recipients. In most cases such credit was given, until accusations began to be made that Don had not actually visited the locations he claimed to be operating from, that some of them were completely bogus and some of the operation had taken place from a ship on the high seas near but not actually on the island in question.

Don Miller had become a highly popular figure among DXing hams, and this popularity was reflected among the ARRL directors, many of whom were also ardent DXers, and even those who weren't felt obliged to represent their constituents in this matter. So the whole controversy was quickly out of my hands. Moreover, I tended to regard as completely ridiculous the concept that such a matter become a major concern of high management and the policy-making Board. Nevertheless, this is what occurred. Don Miller was a favorite among a possible majority of the board, and a committee was appointed to investigate the alleged tyranny of the CD'S DXCC branch in denying country status to the Don Miller expeditions and thus alienating many in the DXing fraternity. Don Miller even threatened legal action and was invited to visit the headquarters to argue his case before general management and the board committee. I was not a party to this hearing; neither was Bob White. John Huntoon and Dick Baldwin, along with the League's general counsel, were very much involved, trying to counter the committee's heavy prejudice favoring Don Miller, who allegedly had spent so much of his own money conducting his DXpeditions for the benefit of so many amateurs, creating so much international good will. Bob White was also heavily involved, doing the legwork in collecting evidence that certain of the DXpeditions were indeed bogus. It was a typical example of lack of Board confidence in the League's general management and headquarters. But the evidence gathered at considerable expense and, in my opinion, waste of time, was convincing. Certain of the DXpeditions were disallowed for "country" credit and the board committee was dismissed. Don Miller continued to threaten legal action, but this never occurred, it only caused the League more expense in shoring up its legal defenses.

I had to admire the way Bob White conducted his DXCC branch. The Don Miller case was not by any means the only case of bogus "countries" or bogus cards, but it was the most outstanding. However, Bob's peremptory way of handling such matters greatly inflamed many DXers and I was in constant trouble trying to defend him, the more so because my handling of NTS matters often was very similar. Bob knew his job backward and forward. So did I with respect to NTS. I tried to control Bob, who I thought was right most of the time, and John Huntoon tried to control me - with only limited success in both cases. ■

***In the next installment, George talks about his last 12 years at ARRL.***

# QCWA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – 2006

## Calgary, Alberta *Report from Ken Oelke, VE6AFO - Chair, QCWA International Convention-2006*

### And so it goes – another QCWA International

Convention has come and gone. What fun it was too! In total – 125 QCWA members and friends registered for this great event. From all over North America they came - AB, BC, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NE, OH, ON, PA, RI, TX, VA, and WI. Those who thought about coming and procrastinated – surely missed out on a fun event, not to mention all the door prizes that were offered! Yes – door prizes that flowed like milk and honey from 61 sponsors who offered up some 298 door prizes! Two of those prizes were custom-made cuddly teddy bears named See Qu and Aqute. They are known as the “QCWA Communication Bears” and may be found on the airways one day.

The weather was beautiful – just as if Convention Chair Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, put in a special order for this event. Convention attendees began rolling in as early as Monday, others on Tuesday and later the remainder of the QCWA Board and Executives came in on Wednesday. The QCWA Board of Director's meeting took place on Thursday morning at the Convention hotel.

Temperatures were rising each day as we neared the weekend of the Convention, ranging from 58 F (14 C) to 64 F (18 C). It might have had something to do with the excitement building up as Convention day rolled closer to reality.

The programs kicked off early Friday morning with Niels Kristjansson, VA6NJ, presenting “QRP - Challenging Radio” followed by “The Astrolabe - Oldest Scientific Instrument” presented by Arnie Rivett, VE6CN. After a short coffee break, John Bley, VE6MAQ, gave the group a new twist on “Neuron Waves - Another Electric Wave”. Our very own space guru Brian Jackson, VE6JBJ, who's grade five classroom talked with ISS Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, presented “Amateur Radio in Schools” followed by David Conn, VE3KL's presentation – “Polarization of Radio and Optical Waves”. And so down the line the many great presentations took place while others enjoyed the company of others in the hospitality suite. In the evening was a “Meet & Greet” reception (a western style affair) where 93 attendees shared many fine stories over some libation. After this, the hearty further retired to the hospitality suite for more socializing and fun – where a few closed the bar near the bewitching hour!

Saturday morning again brought great programs beginning with the QCWA Annual Meeting of the members. This was followed by “Getting Wired - The Other Way” presented by Dr. Bren Adams, VE6BYG. It was a pleasure to have in our midst well known IARU President Dr. Larry Price, W4RA, and IARU Vice

President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, giving the attendees an update on the upcoming World Radio Conference (WRC) – 2007. This was well received and many questions followed. No amateur radio program would be complete without a Radio Astronomy presentation by Jason Nishiyama. The Saturday programs concluded with a ‘blast out of this world presentation’ by Ian Stephens, VE6IMS entitled “Amateur Radio on Model Rockets”. We even had our very own Moon Base on site as the Calgary Space Workers Society presented their future initiatives out on the hotel parking lot. Those who made it to the Moon Base

received their very own sample of moon dust!

The Saturday evening banquet was the highlight of the Convention with 94 hungry pilgrims attending. President, John B. Johnston, W3BE, took this opportunity to present 3 QCWA Awards to well deserving recipients – namely Dr. Larry Price, W4RA (Hall of Fame Award), QCWA Director, Ed Yoder, W3YMB (Member of the Year Award), and QCWA Director, Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, (The Roll of Honor Award). QCWA Northern California Chapter 11 member Terry Finn, AA6T, also took the opportunity to present greetings and a fine bottle of wine from Chapter 11 members and Board of Directors. After a great meal, keynote speaker Brian Jackson, VE6JBJ, presented his exciting program “Powering Up With QCWA” and showed how his classroom talked to ISS Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, on the International Space Station. He encouraged all of us to give our kids the benefit of the doubt when it comes to them handling the complexities of technology and, in general, to give extra effort in exposing and helping our youth get an early start in amateur radio activities. His presentation indeed moved those in attendance who experienced first hand Brian's passion for all things that bring kids and

space activities together.

Did all this now conclude the convention? No way! Sunday morning found 34 Convention goers touring Stage West Theatre where each enjoyed a fabulous Brunch along with an American musical entitled “DreamGirls”. There was one small glitch in that the theatre experienced technical problems during the last half of the show, giving everyone still additional time to socialize! With a group of 34 Amateurs in attendance there were several offers to help repair the computer sound system.

This now brings us to mentioning next years QCWA Convention to be hosted by Denver, CO Chapter 58 in Denver, CO. I hope to see all of you there along with others whom I did not have the pleasure meeting in Calgary. After having met the Chairperson for QCWA Convention-2007, Jim Blecha, W9KRE – you folks are in for a real treat! Let us all try to come out next year and support Chapter 58. ■



# "Geek's"

## **"GEEKS" A Chapterized Book About Growing Up As a Kid Ham in "da Big Apple"**

By Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF  
Edited By: Lou Ann Keogh, KB6HP

### **A Prologue**

Have you ever heard the story of the kid ham and the frog? It goes this way.

A newly licensed 16-year-old ham is walking down a lonely road when he hears a voice. He looks around but can't see anyone, so he walks on. Then he hears the voice again, so he again stops and looks around but does not see anything.

He is about to walk on when the voice says "Look down here, at your feet."

So he looks down, but the only thing he sees is an ugly green frog.

He is about to move on when the frog says to him "pick me up."

Astounded, he picks up the frog and it begins to talk some more. The frog says "If you kiss me, I will turn into a beautiful young princess and I will stay with you forever and ever."

The young ham stares at the frog for a minute and suddenly pushes the frog into the pocket on his jeans. The frog says "what are you doing? All you have to do is kiss me, and I'll turn into a beautiful princess and stay with you forever and ever!"

The kid ham takes the frog out of his pocket and says: "Look - I am only 16 years old - I just got my ham station and I really have no time for girls. But a talking frog? Now that's going to make for a lot of cool conversations over the repeater."

I think that story really sets the tone for the rest of what I am about to tell you. It's some of the experiences of a kid growing up in the big city who finds himself an out-

cast from local "kid society" because he does not have the physical prowess of the other children. So, he finds his own niche in ham radio and it leads him to happiness and success. Its a story - or a series of stories I know well - because the kids you are about to hear about are me and some of my closest teenage friends. In some cases, I have changed the names of those involved. The reason for this will be abundantly clear as you make your way through the pages. I hope you will enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed living it.

### **My introduction to the magic of the ethereal abyss**

I was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York on February 7th, 1942. Brooklyn is where I grew up and went to school. Its where I got my first job. Its where I went on my first date. Its where I bought my first car. Its where I got my ham radio ticket and its where I put my first "CQ" out over the airwaves.

Back in the late '40s we lived in an area called Bensonhurst on West 8th Street, between Avenue "O" and Avenue "P." In historical terms, this was the very earliest dawning of the communications age. Radio had been around since the early '20s and now a new form of radio was emerging: Radio with pictures. It was called "television," and one fall afternoon in 1948, my father and I walked over to a store called Super Radio Sales on 70th Street and Bay Parkway. There, he plunked down about \$500 and bought an RCA 10 "630" tabletop television set.

But it wasn't that purchase that affected me as much as what else happened that day. While we were there, the store owner — Bill — who was also the radio 'repairman' — called me over to his work bench to show me the innards of a television set — while warning me not to touch anything. I was only five or 6 — but on that day I was taught the 'electronics truism' that goes:



# "GEEKS"

*By the time I was 13, I had built a complete high fidelity record playing system — mainly with cast-off 'radio parts' found in the back of Saul Rosenthal's store. By 14, I was 'fixing TVs' for my neighbors — for free, except parts — much to the chagrin of the established repair shops.*

"If you know what you are doing, keep one hand in your pocket. If you do not know what you are doing keep BOTH hands in your pockets." I have lived by it ever since.

Bill could see I was interested, and took the time to "Elmer" me through the way a TV set worked. The term "Elmer" is one given to a person involved in electronics and communications who goes out of his or her way to share knowledge with others — particularly the young.

I was fascinated — and hooked on this magic box that could make pictures from invisible signals traveling the ethereal abyss (although I had no concept of how it happened).

But I had to know more about how it worked. I had to know where the pictures came from. I had to find out how the signals carrying sound and pictures got from 'some far-off place' to the RCA television set and to the Emerson radios in my house.

By the time I was 10, I knew how it worked. I had read every book in the library regarding the technical end of radio and television. By 12, I was under the after-school tutelage of another "Elmer" — Saul Rosenthal of Rose Radio and Photo, on Bay Parkway. By the time I was 13, I had built a complete high fidelity record playing system — mainly with cast-off 'radio parts' found in the back of Saul Rosenthal's store. By 14, I was 'fixing TVs' for my neighbors — for free, except parts — much to the chagrin of the established repair shops. As a result, the various repair shops offered me part time work — which I gladly accepted — so I could "learn more."

In both Seth Low Junior High School and Lafayette High

School I had a good part-time business fixing radios and TV sets for my fellow students and members of the faculty. I also had the reputation of being the person on the "AV Squad" to call when something went wrong with a sound projector. Remember those Bell & Howell, Victor and Ampro 16 mm sound projectors that were wheeled in to show instructional motion pictures in your class? I was one of the guys who could thread them, operate them and even repair one on the fly.

Rather than regale you with all aspects of my torrid past, suffice to say that during my teen years this interest in radio and television lead me to my getting my Amateur Radio license, a stint fixing consumer electronics for General Electric and Sears, then jobs at various radio and television stations and eventually out here to Los Angeles, and KTTV Fox 11 Television, where I have spent the last two and a half decades of my adult career.

Would I be here if dad had not gone to Super Radio to get a TV set? I really do not know. What I do know is that ham radio, and broadcast television and radio, have been a part of my life ever since. Such is the magic of the "ethereal abyss."

## **First there was Babs**

When I was a kid - not a kid ham - just a kid of about 13, I had my first experience with another youngster who was a radio amateur. As I recall, her name was Barbara Sue Parks. She called herself "Babs" for short. Back in 1955 at age 10, she had to have been the youngest ham on the air in the Metro New York area, if not the world.

In some ways, one might say that Babs was one of my mentors. At least she was one inspiration for getting in to ham radio. I had been hanging around the neighborhood radio and TV repair shops, learning all I could about electronics. One of these stores was owned by the late Warren Spindler, K2IXN. But at the time I did not know that Warren had an alpha-numeric suffix attached to his name courtesy of the FCC. That is until one day when I walked into the store after school to see the repair bench loaded with what looked to be the inside of a World War II tank.

Attached to these ugly boxes was a microphone. Warren was so engrossed in talking into it that he did not even notice me for a while. Warren would talk, and then put down the microphone. A tiny voice, a little girls voice, would issue forth from a loudspeaker sitting on one of

the boxes. I listened, and over the next few minutes I heard Warren and the little girl talking about all sorts of electronic things that I could not understand!

Have you any idea what this was doing to the ego of a young boy who prided himself on believing that he knew more than anyone else about radios and electrical things? Remember that kids did not have to be politically correct back then.

Anyhow, Warren eventually introduced me over the radio to Babs. That's when I found out that she was only 10 and if I recall correctly, she lived in New Hyde Park. About 30 miles from Warren's store. To me, a 13-year-old who had just started traveling alone on the subway, New Hyde Park could have been on the other side of the galaxy. So I never met Babs and I do not remember her call sign.

I do remember trying to figure out what to say to her when Warren introduced us on-the-air. Remember, I was only 13 - she was only 10 - and this was the 1950s, when boys and girls did not even date (at least date 'officially') until they were at least 18 or 21. Note that the working adjective here is "officially!" But I digress.

Talking to Babs for a few minutes that afternoon definitely left a lasting impression on me. I also wanted to be able to talk on an old radio, just like Warren and Babs. I think that part of it was more like "if a 10 year old girl can do it, a 13 year old boy should do it even better - after all, we boys were a lot smarter than any dumb girl." Or so we thought.

So, I asked Warren to teach me all I had to become a ham so that I on the radio like Babs. He promised to do it, but for some reason we never got started. Then Warren decided to close up shop and move onto bigger and better things. He eventually opened up a ham radio retail and service business in upstate New York. Sadly, about a two decades ago he became a "silent key." Yet as I sit here and type, the memories of yesteryear are as alive in my mind as though they were happening today.

*To Be Continued...*

de  
WA6ITF



*Have you any idea what this was doing to the ego of a young boy who prided himself on believing that he knew more than anyone else about radios and electrical things? Remember that kids did not have to be politically correct back then.*

## Summary report Board of Directors meeting September 28, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. MDT by President John B. Johnston. All Directors and Officers were present with the exception of William Pasternak, WA6ITF, who had been excused by the President because of illness. General Manager, Chuck Walbridge had also been excused because of the illness of his wife, Janet.

### Major items which the Board approved were:

1. The budget as presented by the Treasurer.
2. Authorization for the General Manager to apply for a QCWA credit card for use by the General Manager and Treasurer with a limit of \$1000.
3. New dues structure effective January 1, 2007 as follows: \$25 for 1 year, \$40 for 2 years, \$60 for 3 years. The increase in dues only partially offsets the annual operating loss.
4. Tidewater Chapter 119 to be the host for the 2008 convention.

President Johnston announced the appointment of the Nominating Committee for the next election: Alan Pickering, KJ9N, Croft Taylor, VE3CT, and Harold Chase, W1EES.

There was considerable discussion on topics such as QCWA's 60th Anniversary, improving chapter relations, making the Journal more interesting to members, improving the presence of QCWA at hamfests and linking the QCWA website to other amateur radio sites. These will be considered by the standing committees.

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm MDT.

Walter R. Supina, N3WS, Secretary

## MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

**WANTED:** Location of schematic & parts list for low pwr. AM xmtr using 5763, 2E26 & 6N7 modulator, about 1960. Phil k6phd@arrl.net

**FOR SALE:** Ten-Tec Corsair HF Transceiver, matching power supply/speaker, remote VFO, all optional filters, hand mic and manuals. \$800 plus shipping. Ed, k6jgn@arrl.net

**FOR SALE:** Collection of old Collins AM Radio broadcast pieces available & for sale to aspiring collector; serious inquiries only. **WANTED:** TMC p.s. PP-1769 or A-1397 for SBE3 exciter. QSL w5jv@amsat.org.

**HAVE:** Callbooks for Fall 50, Summer 62, Summer 69, and Winter 70-71. All near mint condx.

**WANT:** 1915 or 1916 QST issues EXCEPT August, September, or October. Skip Youngberg, K1NKR@arrl.net

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3CX800A7	3CX20000A7	4CX1500A	YU-106	833C	M338 / TH338
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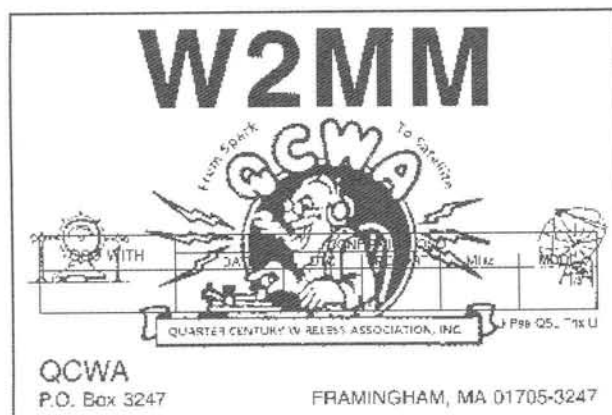
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# SILENT KEYS SILENT KEYS SILENT KEYS SILENT KEYS

With great sadness we record the passing of these members

NAME	CALL	MEM. #	L	SK	CITY	ST/PR
ADLER, STANLEY	W5SZT	11090	L		SELLS	AZ
BOYD, ROBERT B	W4OVG	15170	L	2006	FAYETTEVILLE	GA
BRADLEY, GEORGE A	K5IA	14220	L	2006	WINTER PARK	FL
BRANNEN, LOUISE	N1BDQ	33076		2006	ALBUQUERQUE	NM
CARPENTER, ARCHIE M	W8GWR	29654		2006	PARKERSBURG	WV
COUNSMAN, PEGGY L	WB4HTT	25094		2006	SILVER CITY	NM
COUNSMAN, RANDALL F	W4UXW	15106	L	2006	SILVER CITY	NM
DARDANI, PETER P	W6RAS	07982	L	2006	SAN BRUNO	CA
EHRMAN, PHILIP B	W3QWL	14414		2006	ERIE	PA
ERNST, RAYMOND A	W2TAX	08606		2006	TAVARES	FL
FLAGG, DAVID N	N4BGH	31895		2006	WINTER PARK	FL
FOOTE, BURTON A	W7LQX	13636	L	2006	MOSES LAKE	WA
FOX, EARL D	W4DWR	28452		2006	MC LEANSVILLE	NC
GOLDSTEIN, JOSEPH D	W2BDU	17475		2006	NORTHPORT	NY
GRAY, ALBERT H	VK2IJ	06747	L	2006	WHALE BEACH	AUSTRALIA
GUTIERREZ, SAM E	W0COR	24577		2006	THORNTON	CO
HALL, JAMES M	W3JI	18395		2006	FT MYERS	FL
HARTLES, CLIFFORD	DJ0OS	16549		2006	SALZUFLEN	W GERMANY
HERMAN, WADE	W4WWW	14957	L	2006	TAMPA	FL
KOCUREK, LOUIS J JR	W5VIV	12079	L	2006	BOERNE	TX
LESTER, FRANK	W4AMJ	00013	L	2006	VENICE	FL
LIEBIG, HANS-WERNER	DL6NB	14496		2006	BRAUNSCHWEIG	GERMANY
LIEBIG, SUSI A	DJ2YL	14495		2006	BRAUNSCHWEIG	GERMANY
LINDAE, KLAUS	DL1AKJ	27868	L	2006	BODELWITZ	GERMANY
LINZINGER, ERNST	DL6DV	16976	L	2006	FELDAFING	GERMANY
MATHIS, HUGO	OE9IM	19980	L	2006	LOCHAU	AUSTRIA
MERRITT, ANTHONY G	K5CFM	28870		2006	OKLAHOMA CITY	OK
MOHN, JOHN L	W5MEU	09337	L	2006	SAN ANTONIO	TX
MONIAN, ROBERT K	W6FD	31813		2006	PALM DESERT	CA
MUSCHER, ARTHUR R	WB2RAG	10573	L	2006	TALLAHASSEE	FL
NORDOS, ROY S	W0VSA	05439	L	2006	MINNEAPOLIS	MN
PANGLE, FRANCIS W	W0BEG	19577		2006	AURORA	CO
RAUSCH, JESSE	W0JR	31294		2006	GETTYSBURG	SD
SMITH, N CLIFFE	W1SG	07066	L	2006	VIERA	FL
STEWART, JOHN L	KE6DK	32782		2006	FORESTHILL	CA
STOLARIK, JOHN D	K3CLG	27609		2006	W HYATTSVILLE	MD
STONE, RILEY N JR	K4HYY	30044		2006	SUMMERVILLE	SC
SURTEES, R LYLE	W0UUS	06232	L	2006	WICHITA	KS
VINCE, THOMAS J	VE3HM	24696		2006	THOROLD	CANADA
WASSON, JAMES A	KB3ESR	30940		2006	STATE COLLEGE	PA
WIEGERT, PAUL J	K2JFE	16580		2006	STATEN ISLAND	NY

Correction and apology: Due to receiving misinformation at Headquarters the Journal incorrectly listed Mort Jacobs, N0AW, as a Silent Key in the Fall 2006 issue. We formally apologize to Mort and wish him continued good health! We are striving to keep this problem in check and to avoid any additional incorrect listings.



# Chapters On The Air!

NUM	NAME	DAY	TIME	NC	FREQ	NUM	NAME	DAY	TIME	NC	FREQ
SO CALIF CW		SUN	1100L	K6CD	7034	81 LONG ISLAND QCWA CH	FRI	2030L	W2TLC	146.745 -	
FL SSB		SAT	1300Z	W4KOG	3955	81 LONG ISLAND CH	SUN	1130L	W2TLC	3917	
QCWA SSB		SUN	2000Z	varies	14347	85 ARK-LA-TEX CH	MON	1930L	WA9PZL	146.67 -	
FL SSB		WED	1500Z	W4NWF	7274	89 PALMETTO STATE CH	SAT	0843L	N4RM	3930	
CONEX		SUN	0815L	W2NBT	3917	89 PALMETTO CH	SUN	1700L	N4RM	3695	
QCWA CW		WED	2000E	VARIES	7035	91 VIC CLARK CH	SUN	0900L	VARIES	146.79 -	
1 CLEVELAND CH		WED	2000L	W8LYD	146.85 -	102 DAKOTA CH	SUN	1400Z	VARIES	3889	
2 CHICAGO AREA CH		1stTh	2130L	W9MOL	147.15 +	106 GERMAN CH	MON	1630Z	DLOQCW	3773	
5 DELAWARE VALLEY CH		SUN	0945L	W2UAE	3917	106 GERMAN CH	TUE	1730Z	DL1MEB	3576	
6 PITTSBURGH CH		SUN	0830L	N3GMI	147.03 +	107 CENTRAL FL	SAT	0900L	W4LHP	7243	
7 SOUTHERN CA		SUN	1000L	W6ZRZ	147.36 +	107 CENTRAL FL	THUR	1230L	W4LHP	14245	
7 SOUTHERN CA		SUN	1000L	W6ZRZ	446.24 -	108 BEAVER STATE CH	WED	0800L	W7LVN	3926	
7 SOUTHERN CA		SUN	1100L	K6CD	7034	109 BATON ROUGE CH	SUN	2000L	VARIES	146.79 -	
7 SOUTHERN CA		SUN	0900L	W6LPJ	3917	109 BATON ROUGE CH	SUN	0800L	VARIES	3905	
8 UPPER MIDWEST CH		SAT	0800L	W00FY	3909	110 KANSAS CH	SAT	0730L	KA0RZO	3920	
9 SOUTHWEST OH		SUN	1330L	K8YDP	3975	111 PALM BEACH CH	TTHSA	1900L	VARIES	146.670 -	
10 MICHIGAN CH		SUN	0800L	VARIES	3702	112 YANKEE CH	SUN	0830L	W1GCA	3903	
10 MICHIGAN CH		SAT	2000L	WB8ICN	3.535+/-	114 NORTH TEXAS CH	SAT	0830L	WA5BXH	3933	
11 NORTHERN CA		SAT	1000L	WB6IMX	146.85 -	119 TIDEWATER VA	SUN	0900L	NC VARIES	146.895-	
11 NORTHERN CA		SUN	0930L	WA6AFT	3907	119 TIDEWATER VA	SUN	0800L	K4JDJ	3947	
14 SAN DIEGO CH		WED	2000L	VARIES	146.640 -	123 LEE DEFOREST CH	SAT	0730L	VARIES	3940	
16 ARIZONA CH		SUN	0700L	W7LGB	3890	125 NEBRASKA CH	TUE	0100Z	VARIES	146.94 -	
17 ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM		SUN	1200L	W3GOS	3990	126 PIEDMONT CH	SAT	0845L	VARIES	3935	
19 MISSOURI CH		WED	1900L	W9VHL	147.15+	128 PELICAN CH	SAT	0900L	VARIES	145.29 -	
20 BALTIMORE CH		MON	2100L	W3EE	147.285+	130 INLAND EMPIRE	WED	1930L	W6HV	1896	
21 CANTON OH CH		THU	1930L	VARIES	145.11-	130 INLAND EMPIRE	SAT	0800L	W6HV	3917	
25 NEBRASKA CH		SAT	0830L	VARIES	3982	130 INLAND EMPIRE	FRI	1600L	W6HV	3917	
28 CENTRAL NY		SUN	1030L	K2MFB	3917	134 PINE TREE	SUN	1400L	VARIES	3942	
29 FINGER LAKES CH		SUN	1230L	W2BCH	3900	135 MID-MICHIGAN CH	TUE	2000L	VARIES	146.70 -	
31 READING, PA CH		MON	2100L	VARIES	146.91 -	138 MARCONI CH	TUE	2100L	VARIES	147.045+	
32 GATOR CH		SAT	0900L	VARIES	145.29 -	140 WYOMING CH	SAT	0800L	AB7BJ	3923	
33 GUNDERSON PENN-JRSEY		DAILY	2000L	W3APE	3987	142 NORTHWEST OH	WED	2000L	K8PL	147.27+	
33 GUNDERSON-PENN-JRSEY		DAILY	1000L	W3APE	14263	146 TWIN STATE CH	SUN	0830L	VARIES	3912	
35 MIDCONTINENT CH		THU	2030L	K0YML	146.97 -	146 TWIN STATE CH	THUR	1900L	VARIES	146.76 -	
37 HARRISBURG CH		WED	2100L	K3IUY	147.12 +	149 NUTMEG CH	SUN	1030L	W1JC	3923	
38 SAN ANTONIO CH		SUN	2030L	W5HRF	146.94 -	150 DEL-MAR-VA CH	SUN	0900L	NQ4Q	146.820 -	
41 DALLAS CH		SUN	0715L	VARIES	3835	151 WILD ROSE CH	MON	1900L	VARIES	3747	
45 CITRUS CH		TUE	1930L	VARIES	147.195 +	152 ROYAL PALM CH	MWF	1630L	K4FA	14190	
46 FOUNDER'S CH		SUN	0815L	W2NBT	3917	160 UTAH CH	SAT	1100L	VARIES	7272	
49 PEACH STATE CH		SAT	0900E	K4VN	3857.5	162 SOUTHEAST WI	THUR	2100L	N9NBC	147.27+	
49 PEACH STATE CH		WED	2000L	K4VN	145.41 -	165 YORK COUNTY PA	WED	2100L	W3AXC	147.33+	
51 TEX-LA GOLDEN TRI		MON	1830L	W5AL	146.85	169 SACRAMENTO VALLEY	M/THU	1730L	VARIES	3947.5	
55 WI CH		SUN	0830L	WA9UVK	3985	173 GOLDEN TRI CH	TUE	1930L	W9JRY	145.39 -	
58 CO CH		SUN	0900L	W9KRE	3910	181 HUDSON VALLEY	SUN	0815L	W2NBT	3917	
58 CO CH		SUN	0930L	VARIES	146.67-	182 NORTHEAST TN	SUN	2100L	W4CZ	145.110 -	
62 SUWANNEE CH		SAT	0900L	W4PFJ	3940	183 PIONEER CH	SUN	0930L	VARIES	3923	
63 CENTRAL OK CH		SUN	0730L	W5AS	3855	191 MONTEREY BAY CH	TUES	1930L	VARIES	146.70 +	
63 CENTRAL OK CH		THUR	1900L	W5HXL	145.105 +	194 HAWAII CH	1st S	1500L	KH6B	7088	
64 EL PASO CH		SAT	0830L	W5RO	3933	196 EDISON CH	DAILY	0730L	VARIES	147.345 -	
65 NIAGARA FRONTIER		SUN	1330L	W2QI	3900	198 MID SIERRA CH	SAT	0700I	VARIES	3908	
67 AUSTIN CH		SAT	0900L	W5MDL	3920	204 BANKS OF THE WABASH	SAT	1000L	VARIES	145.230	
70 NATIONAL CAPITAL		THUR	2000L	VE3QCV	147.03 +	205 EASTERN IN CH	MON	2000L	VARIES	147.045+	
75 CENTRAL CA COAST		SAT	1000	VARIES	7260					pl 131.8	
76 BLUE RIDGE CH		SAT	0900L	W4LSK	3942	210 OMAHA CH	TUES	1900L	W0OMA	147.36 +	
77 NORTHERN NJ		THU	2000L	W2IET	147.030 +	211 NEOSHO VALLEY CH	SAT	0900C	VARIES	3907	
79 SUNFLOWER CH		WED	2100L	VARIES	146.82 -					EXCEPT 4TH SAT	
						213 FRESNO CALIFORNIA	4TH MON	1930L	VARIES	146.850(-)	
										pl 141.3	



PROPOSED DUES CHANGES  
(Effective April 1, 2007)

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Three Years dues	\$55.00
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Three-pay life	\$390.00**
Family Life (ea. additional)	\$90.00
Three-pay Family Life	\$105.00***

\* By-laws state the Life dues are 15 times the one-year dues

\*\* Three payments of \$130 each

\*\*\* Three payments of \$35 each

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Life (no pubs)	US\$150.00
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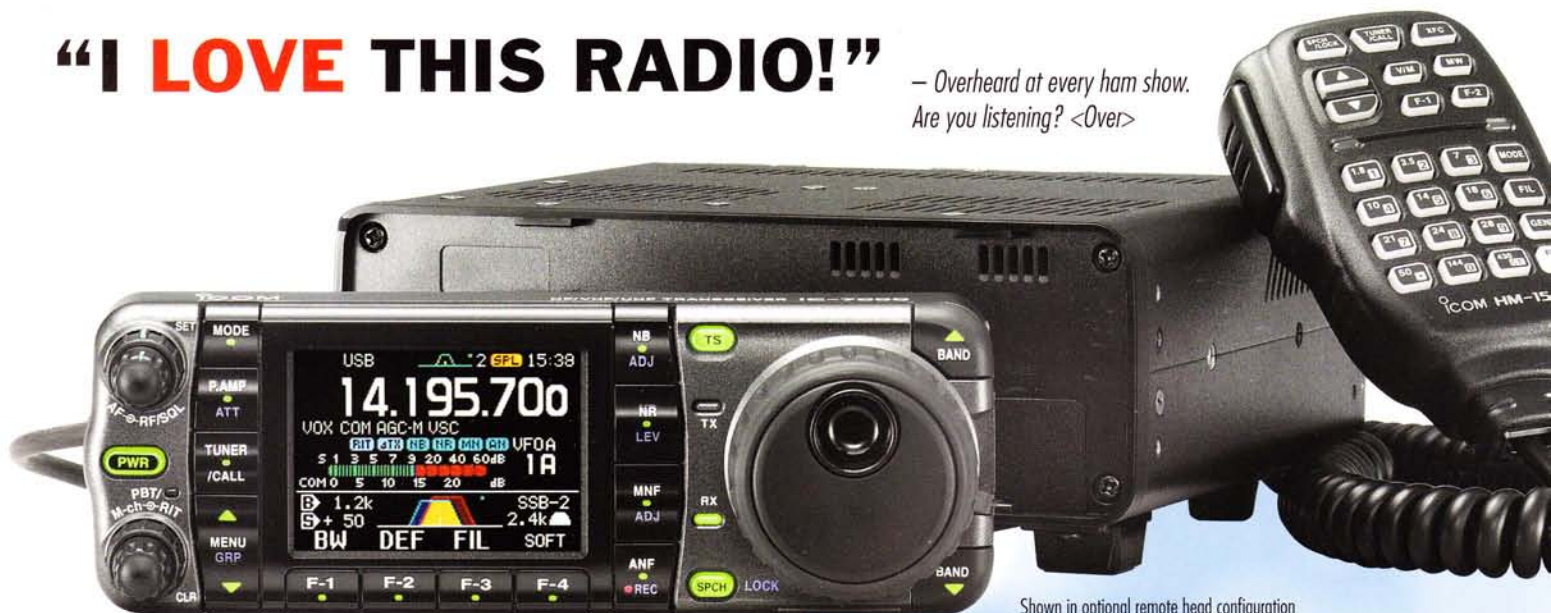
Three years (no pubs)	US\$30.00
Family (3-years)	US\$12.00
Life (no pubs)	US\$150.00
Family Life (ea. additional)	US\$40.00

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— QST, May 2006

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- OPC-1443 = 11 ft



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